

FBIHQ FILE  
100-12304

SECTION : 17

PAUL ROBESON, SR.

for

Date: 7/24/58  
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)  
From: Legat, Mexico (105-978)  
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C

Re Legat letter dated 6/13/58.

No further information has been received by this office that PAUL ROBESON intends to visit Mexico.

Extra copies of this communication are being furnished to the Bureau for transmittal to the New York office, 100-25857.

RUC.

1A  
4 - Bureau  
1 - Mexico City  
JTH:PAK  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5R1g/HW

112774  
RE  
DATE  
NOV 16 1958  
BY

67 AUG 5 1958 F53

EX-138-8

RECEIVED CONTROL  
DEC. 10 - FBI

100-12304-533

JUL 31 1958

SUB CONTROL



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
American Embassy  
Paris 8, France

Date: July 29, 1958

To: Director, FBI (100-12304)

From: Legat, Paris (100-715)

Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJA/101

ReBulet to State Department 7/11/58.

"L'Humanite", French Communist daily, on 7/21/58 printed a message from "the great colored American singer, PAUL ROBESON", which was read at the plenary session of the World Peace Council at Stockholm, Sweden, on 7/20/58 by Mrs. ANNA LOUISE STRONG. This statement read as follows:

"You have come from all corners of the Earth, and you represent different political opinions, nations and cultures.

"Once more the noble words of JOLIOT-CURIE have resounded at Stockholm: 'The people themselves must impose the peace.' There is still time. The world must know that the colored people want to be masters of their destiny and of their resources.

"The warmongers must understand that the ratio of strength has changed radically. They must understand that the aspirations of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America can never, never be broken.

"I send you my best wishes for your labors. Millions and millions of people on this Earth are at your sides.

"With my deep affection.

"PAUL ROBESON."

23 AUG 5 1958

100-12304-534  
15 AUG 1958  
BUREAU  
100-12304-534  
ROL:CM  
(5)

AGENCY 100-12304  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 8-12-58  
HOW FORW. 1-25-81  
BY 101/101

EX-139

77 AUG 12 1958

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*Libs*  
AIRTEL

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

7/29/58

FROM SAC, WFO (100-19021)

PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.  
Is - C  
(OO: NY)

CINAL

Re WFO letter and report dated 7/16/58, advising that ROBESON was issued a passport on 6/25/58.

On 7/28/58, ROBERT D. JOHNSON, Chief, Legal Section, Passport Office, Department of State, made available to SA [redacted] a foreign service dispatch which was not classified but marked "official use only." This dispatch from the American Consulate, Glasgow, dated 7/10/58, was captioned "Communist interest in possible visit of PAUL ROBESON to Scotland" and reflects that on 7/10/58, the Secretary of the Scottish Council of the Labour Party, WILLIAM MARSHAL, indicated that the National Union of Mineworkers, Scottish Area, whose leadership is Communist, was jubilant over the prospects of a possible visit to Scotland by ROBESON. The Consulate reported that the source making available the above information indicated that ROBESON had accepted an invitation from the Scottish Area leadership of the Mineworkers' Union to come here sometime in the near future.

Above is for information

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - New York (100-25957)
- 1 - WFO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5 RJS/ldw

WGS:mw  
(6)

AIRTEL 8 JUL 29 1958 EX-128 REC-65

100-12304-535

REC'D - EBT

16 JUL 29 1958

*U.S. ...*  
*AG ...*  
*8-4-58*  
*BR*

59 AUG 8 1958



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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 7/21/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

"UNAVAILABLE SECTION"

SUBJECT: PAUL LE ROY ROBESON, wa.  
IS-C

Cards UTD  
Cards Sent OO  
8-6-58am

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) <u>Out of the Country</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address)		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		
Residence Address <u>ADD: Travelling in Europe</u>		

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5K19/HW

TAB 'OC'

100-12304 -  
NOT RECORDED  
4 JUL 23 1958

SUBV. CONTROL

JDN:ptk

52 AUG 7 1958



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
American Embassy  
Paris 8, France

Date: August 20, 1958

To: Director, FBI (100-12304)

From: Legat, Paris (100-715)

Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 R/g/lw

7/29/58. ReBulet to State Department 7/11/58 and Paris letter

3 - Bureau  
1 - Paris  
ROL:CM  
(4)

66 SEP 3 1958

REC- 21

12 AUG

EX-108

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 8-23-58

FROM : LEGAT, BONN (105-720)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rebulet to State Department 7-11, 1958.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

This office will remain alert for information on the  
 subject and will reports any data received.

P.

2 - Bureau  
 1 - Bonn  
 GAV:gav  
 (3)

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 DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 Rlg/HW

AGENCY ccny  
 REQ. REC'D  
 DATE FORW. 7-2-58  
 HOW FORW. By mail  
 BY SP-5 Rlg/HW

EX-126

100-12304-537  
 REG-61 11 SEP 3 1958

SUBV CONTROL  
 RK

5, 6 SEP 1958

7



FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: 9/5/58

PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

REGISTERED MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing) OTHERWISE

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)  
DATE 9/16/58  
Via AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (100-20853)

RE : CP, USA, MARYLAND - D. C. DISTRICT  
BALTIMORE DIVISION  
PAUL ROBESON

IS - C  
CINAL

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R1gHw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-97

[REDACTED]

- 3 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - WFO (Info) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 3 - New York (REGISTERED MAIL)
  - 100- PAUL ROBESON
  - 100- ESIANDA ROBESON
  - 100- [REDACTED]
- 3 - Baltimore
  - 100-20853 PAUL ROBESON
  - 100-19876 CINAL

100-12304-  
NOT RECORDED  
152 SEP 11 1958

RCN: (10)

50 SEP 16 1958

Approved: Special Agent in Charge

Sent

FBI - 100-12304  
REC'D

SEP 8 1958  
REC'D

H. P. 14  
SUB. CONT  
CENTRAL SEARCH

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-3-01-1315

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: September 4, 1958

FROM : Legal Attache, London (100-1182)

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - CCLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R/gdw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-4-88

Remylet 7/25/58. (u)

[REDACTED]

(c)

For the additional information of the Bureau, the following item was contained in the Summary of World Broadcasts by the British Broadcasting Company, dated 9/1/58:

"KHRUSHCHEV, 'who is resting on the south coast of the Crimea, 'visited the Nizhnyaya Oreanda sanatorium where he met Paul Robeson and his wife. He had 'a friendly and cordial talk' with them and, together with Robeson, attended a children's concert. (Tass in Russian for Abroad 8/29/58)."

(u)

[REDACTED]

(c)

5 - Bureau  
1 - London  
CWB:1c  
-P-  
(6)

REC-76

100-12304-53

5 SEP 9 1958

Classified by 2650  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

MAY 4 1977

26 11 5 12 1977

REC'D FBI

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CONFIDENTIAL

AGENCY 2650  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 9-11-58  
HOW FORW. 1050-25  
BY [signature]

5 (SEP 12 1958)

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 8, 1958

FROM : Legat, London

~~TOP SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED~~

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C  
Bufile 100-12304

[REDACTED]  
IS - C  
Bufile 100-11687

[REDACTED]  
IS - C  
Bufile 100-18610

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R-LSHw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-81

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OTHERWISE

Remylet 9/4/58, entitled "PAUL LEROY ROBESON; IS C."

There are enclosed twelve copies of a memorandum dated [REDACTED] setting forth information received from [REDACTED]

and requested that the information not be disseminated outside the Bureau.

The Bureau will be kept advised of any information furnished this office [REDACTED]

REC-14  
12 - Bureau (Encls. 12)

1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]  
CWB:mas  
(15)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 6/3/61

REC-14

100-12304-539  
10 SEP 12 1958

COPIES DESTROYED

66 SEP 22 1958

AGENCY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
BY FORW.

66 SEP 22 1958

~~TOP SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED~~



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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>NEW YORK</b>	Office of Origin <b>NEW YORK</b>	Date <b>9/15/58</b>	Investigative Period <b>3/21 - 9/8/58</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.</b>		Report made by <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	Typed By: <b>mbb</b>
<p style="text-align: center;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">INTERNAL SECURITY - C</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1-16-81</p> <p>CLASS. &amp; EXT. BY <b>SP-5 RLG/124</b> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 <b>3-1</b> DATE OF REVIEW <b>8-16-87</b> <b>9-15-88</b></p>	

Synopsis:

ROBESON travelling abroad; place of domicile remains 16 Jumel Terrace, NYC. ROBESON gave concerts in Oakland, California; Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; Los Angeles, California, and at Carnegie Hall, NYC, on 5/9 and 23/58. Appeared at function in Chicago on 4/9/58, sponsored by the Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship (CCASF). Sang in Los Angeles on 3/14/58, on behalf of "People's World." At a meeting of NEC, CP, USA, on 3/28, 29/58, NYC, BEN DAVIS stated ROBESON's passport difficulty is the CP's fight. In contact with Soviet and satellite nationals and/or establishments. CP has actively pushed the sale of ROBESON's

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE

8/4/81

OLD DISSEMINATION

ENDING KEY TO

25 to NYC 9/30 Let 3

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Approved <div style="text-align: center;"><b>788K</b></div>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below
Copies made: <b>4-Bureau (100-12304) (RM)</b> <b>3-New York (100-25857)</b>		<b>100-12304-540</b>
AGENCY <b>Rail, H&amp;A, CIA</b> REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. <b>9-26-58</b> HOW FORW. <b>15-</b> BY <b>[Signature]</b>		<b>REC-76</b> <b>EX-126</b> <b>13 SEP 16 1958</b>

58 OCT 1 1958

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12

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NY 100-25857

SYNOPSIS: (Continued)

book, "Here I Stand." NEHRU of India described ROBESON as a sufferer "in the cause for human dignity." East Germany, Bulgaria, China, England, France and other countries had ceremonies to celebrate the 60th birthday of ROBESON. Received passport #1145187 from State Department for travel in Europe and departed United States on 7/10/58, stated he would give concerts in Europe and mentioned Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. Refused to answer question in Great Britain as to whether he is or is not a Communist. In Moscow on 8/17/58, stated the Moscovites had inspired him with strength. Soviet Prime Minister KHRUSHCHEV from Moscow, 8/29/58, stated he had a "friendly and cordial talk with PAUL ROBESON."

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NY 100-25857

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NY 100-25857

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence

PAUL ROBESON left on a European concert tour on July 10, 1958. (See section II (F) below.)

[REDACTED] advised on September 5, 1958, that ROBESON's place of domicile in the United States continues as 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City. b7D

B. Employment

Concerts

The "San Francisco News", San Francisco, California, final edition, issue of January 29, 1958, contained an article captioned, "Robeson Happier, Still Fighting." In this article it was stated:

"Paul Robeson is feeling better these days.

"The American Negro basso is still as lefty as ever, still in good voice, and doesn't 'regret a thing.'

"He pulled into town yesterday for his Feb. 9 concert in honor of Negro History

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"Week at the Oakland Auditorium Theater.

"The reason he's feeling better is that he thinks 'we in America and the Russians are beginning to learn we've got to live with each other.' And he cited the recent U.S.-Soviet cultural exchange agreement as evidence.

"As for State Dept. troubles - he hasn't been able to get a passport for almost a decade because he won't sign a non-Communist affidavit - he says:

"'They're holding me up because they say I'll serve the Communist cause by:

'Preaching peace.

'Criticizing the U.S. for its treatment of Negroes.

'Working for the Council on African Affairs (first cited by the Justice Dept. as "subservice and Communist" in 1947).'"

The "San Francisco Chronicle", San Francisco, California, final edition, issue of February 5, 1958, contained an article captioned, "Paul Robeson --- More Music Than Politics". In this article it was stated:

"Paul Robeson has always been one of the most emotional of singers and about the

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"last person you would expect to hear talking about music in terms that might send an advanced musicologist back to his reference books.

"Returning to the concert circuit after six years of singing in churches and informal recitals, the 59-year-old basso will appear at the Oakland Auditorium Sunday afternoon. And after a lunch with Robeson last week at the Whitcomb Hotel - and a conversation loaded with such technical terms as 'pentatonic scale' and tritone intervals' - I could hardly help being convinced that he is more interested in musicology than in politics.

"The last year and a half has been a time of great discovery for me," said Robeson, who speaks with the same intensity as he sings and sometimes soars into melody to point an example. "It began when I first listened really closely to Bartok and found how he had devised a method that would harmonize the melodies of pentatonic Hungarian folk songs. All folk music is similar and I had been singing it all my life without realizing the technical base that makes a Negro spiritual of the same family as a Russian folk song or an old English madrigal. Bartok, Debussy and Mussorgsky taught me to hear all over again."

"Actually, folk songs, and all great music, are based on the melody of natural human speech. In my concert Sunday

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NY 100-25857

"I sing folk songs and read Shakespeare and, to me, the poetry and music become merely two sides of something that most closely resembles a Hebrew chant."

"After his Oakland appearance, Robeson plans to tour the U. S. and Latin America, and, if his passport restrictions are removed, he will go back to England (where he may do 'Othello'), Europe and the Soviet Union. He was frank on his feelings toward Russia. 'They are making great strides under great difficulties', he said. 'But the United States has also greatly advanced in the field of race relations.

"I am sorry now that I quit the concert stage because of politics. It happened six years ago in St. Louis when I was singing in a non-segregated hall across the street from a segregated theater that I had picketed with the NAACP the same afternoon. I told the audience I would stop singing until these two things were reconciled. They are not yet, but I see now that I should have gone on with my work."

"There is a whole new generation for me to perform before," said Robeson. "Any 'politics' in the future will be in my singing. A friend was shocked when I told him the only speeches Sunday would be Shakespeare and Shelley. Then I will sing French, Russian, Yiddish and Chinese

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NY 100-25857

"folk songs along with Negro spirituals.  
The audience can draw its own conclusion."

The "New York Times," New York City, New York, late city edition, issue of April 2, 1958, page 35, carried an article captioned, "Robeson Concert Off." In this article it was stated that GILBERT CLOONAN, Superintendent of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, had stated on April 1, 1958, that PAUL ROBESON's concert scheduled for April 21 was cancelled because it would not be consistent with the memorial character of the building.

"Variety" (a newspaper for show people) issue of April 9, 1958, contained an article captioned, "Church Extends Invitation to Paul Robeson After Vet Group Objects." This article made reference to the fact that the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, had cancelled a concert of ROBESON's on April 21, 1958.

In the article it is stated that Reverend CHARLES R. GORDON, Minister of the St. Matthew A.M.E. Zion Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, said he was "quite" disappointed that Allegheny County officials had called off the concert of April 21.

It was stated that GORDON emphasized that although he is not in agreement with the political views of ROBESON, he respected his right to be heard as an artist.

T-1 advised on April 14, 1958, that ROBESON on April 13, 1958, attended a meeting at 400

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NY 100-25857

East 33rd Street, Chicago, Illinois, at which several Communist Party members were present. PAUL ROBESON discussed concerts that he had in California and cited one which was a complete failure because he had received adverse publicity in the newspapers and lacked support from unions and Negroes.

ROBESON stated he had a singing engagement in Haiti but he refused to go because he wanted to give another concert in California that would be successful.

ROBESON stated that prior to this second California concert he went to the Negro leaders in the trade unions movement and various ministers to get their support. He stated that some local politicians tried to disrupt the concert but failed and the concert was a success so much so that he had been asked to return in the fall.

ROBESON stated he felt that the Negro fight for civil rights is finally sinking into the minds of ministers, educators and the Negro people in general. He stated that this could also be said of middle-class whites.

"The Worker" issue of April 20, 1958, page four, column two, contained an article captioned, "Robeson Sings in Detroit, April 25." In this article it was stated that PAUL ROBESON would sing with the Hartford Avenue Baptist Church Choir on April 25 at 7:30 p.m. DETROIT M.C.

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist weekly newspaper.

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NY 100-25857

[REDACTED] advised on April 28, 1958, that PAUL ROBESON stated he had an important concert on May 15, 1958, in Los Angeles.

The "New York Daily News", final edition, issue of May 4, 1958, page one, section two, contained an article which stated that PAUL ROBESON would give two concerts at Carnegie Hall, New York City, on May 9 and 23, 1958.

The "New York Times", late city edition, issue of May 10, 1958, page 19, contained an article captioned, "Paul Robeson Sings, Lectures In First City Recital in 11 Years." In this article it was stated:

"About twenty policemen were stationed outside Carnegie Hall last night, where Paul Robeson was giving his first local recital in eleven years. Their presence was unnecessary. The audience, which completely filled the hall, was orderly, and there were no demonstrations outside. And so the police went home about 9:15 P.M.

"When Mr. Robeson made his appearance, he was greeted with a long standing ovation. Dressed in a dinner jacket, instead of the customary tails of recitalists, he remains a burly, imposing figure with tremendous dignity. He sang into a microphone and used a notebook with the texts of his songs.

[REDACTED] advised on May 19, 1958, that the arrangements for ROBESON's concert of May 9 and 23, 1958,

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NY 100-25857

were made by ART D'LUGOFF. [redacted] noted that this is not an unusual action on the part of D'LUGOFF inasmuch as his business pertains to arranging concerts for artists.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that ART D'LUGOFF was considered a member of the CP in 1951 in Santa Barbara, California.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)

A. Activity of the CP and/or CP Front Organizations in Behalf of PAUL ROBESON

Chicago Council of American Soviet Friendship (CCASF)

CHICAGO, ILL.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the CCASF, since its inception in Chicago in 1940's, has never failed to propagandize for Russia and the Russian way of life. This source further advised that the CCASF has been using speakers who were known to the source as members of the Communist Party since the first meetings in 1940's.

The source advised that the program of the CCASF has always included speakers, movies and pamphlets praising every aspect of Russia including its foreign policy and has been extremely critical of the United States domestic and foreign policies.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that PAUL ROBESON's 60th birthday celebration held on April

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9, 1958, at 32 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, was sponsored by the CCASF. About 750 persons attended this event

ROBESON received two standing ovations and in his talk stated, "We should tell the world we want peace" and "We have got to stop nuclear tests." ROBESON stated "America could not be what it is today without the contributions of the American Liberals."

ROBESON related, "I stand here at this moment for this organization to fight for peace. There must be peace between the United States and the Soviet Union. There must be a summit conference. This has to do with saving the whole world. I have been in the Soviet Union. I have found human dignity and freedom from prejudice there but had to come back and fight for myself and the Negro."

### "People's World"

The "People's World" is a West Coast Communist newspaper.

advised on March 14, 1958, that the 20th birthday celebration of the "People's World" was held at the Embassy Auditorium, 847 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California, on March 14, 1958.

PAUL ROBESON spoke and sang at this meeting. After concluding his singing, ROBESON stated he hopes this country will be the America we want. He stated he stands firm for a true America with an understanding of all kinds of ideals in the world

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stating that if he was ever on trial himself he will stand as a believer in Marxism. He stated that he stands as a firm friend never to leave the side of the socialist people all over the world.

Comments of New York State and CP  
Leadership

██████████ advised on March 28, 1958 and March 29, 1958, that a meeting of the National Executive Committee (NEC), CP, USA, was held in New York City on those dates. b7D

The informant stated that during the course of this meeting, BEN DAVIS spoke concerning PAUL ROBESON and characterized him as one of the great figures of the world. DAVIS stated that he had written a review of ROBESON's book as a commentary on its tremendous political significance and on the impact the book has today on the national community. DAVIS also stated that ROBESON's passport difficulty is the Party's fight.

Referring again to PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand," DAVIS stated that this book is getting a tremendous reception here and internationally. He said the book itself is a fine document, brilliant piece of writing and an application of Marxism on the part of ROBESON that is fearless.

██████████ also advised on June 17, 1958, that there was a meeting of the NEC, CP, USA, on that date at CP Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, New York City. b7D

BEN DAVIS spoke at this meeting and stated that all the emphasis that the Party has

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put on ROBESON is going to prove to be money in the bank for the Party and money in the bank for the Negro people.

✓ [redacted] advised on [redacted] that [redacted] a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA, stated that PAUL ROBESON, in his book, stated that he is not a Communist but [redacted] stated that the Party understands him.

B. Communist Party Associates

[redacted] advised on February 28, 1958, that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT had stated he had just finished PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand," and he stated in this connection that what is needed now is a re-birth of nationalism among Negroes.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a CP meeting was held on [redacted] at [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT spoke and commented on PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand." He stated that here is one of the greatest contributions to the Negro movement. It is the most violent appraisal of the Negro on the American scene. Whether you agree or disagree with ROBESON, you have to admit he has an honest approach.

LIGHTFOOT stated that he wanted 3,000 copies of this book sold by the CP with 1,000 copies being purchased by Party members and friends.

[redacted] advised on April 24, 1958, that WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, Chairman Emeritus of the CP, USA,

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in contact with PAUL ROBESON, stated, "Your book in its clear fighting support will do much to clarify the question. I venture to assert it will do a leading service to the Negro people in the fight to light up and make clear the typical road the Negro people have to travel in fighting for their own national liberation .... gradually working their way to socialism."

[REDACTED] advised on May 25, 1958, that BEN DAVIS on that date was in contact with ROBESON. During the ensuing conversation, DAVIS congratulated ROBESON on his second concert at Carnegie Hall, May 23, 1958, and stated that he was sorry that he had not been there. ROBESON stated that the second concert was much better than the first one and that he was "in excellent voice." ROBESON remarked that he is astounded at the success of the concert and that it opens up entire new vistas for him. He stated that he put the Negro up on an intellectual plane. b7D

BEN DAVIS enthusiastically told ROBESON of the wonderful emphasis he has made and the fact that ROBESON is proving that the Negro is an intellectual and showing the wonders of African music.

C. Contacts With Soviet or Satellite  
Officials and/or Establishments

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[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] advised on June 27, 1958, that ROBESON, during June, 1958, prepared the following message for transmittal to the Soviet Union:

"Warmest greetings on this day dedicated to the youth.

"All through the years the activities of the youth have been of deepest concern.

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"As you know, my son was a young pioneer, and proudly recalls his stay in the Soviet land.

"Deepest gratitude to you all, for your persevering struggle in the sacred cause of peace for all nations, for all peoples. All success to you in your unremitting labors."

On June 27, 1958, the informant <sup>also</sup> furnished information that ROBESON has prepared the following message for ~~transmission~~ to the Soviet Union:

"Clearly the meeting of the Congress for Disarmament and International Cooperation is of profound importance.

"All peoples of the most diverse opinions must find common ground in the cause of world peace and the preservation of human kind.

"The recent activities of tens of millions of peoples all over the world testify to the peoples will to find peace and quickly.

"This is increasingly true in various sections of the United States, with leading participation by many distinguished scientists, public figures, and powerful organizations.

"So all success to the Stockholm

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"conference in these trying times and thanks to you for your consecrated struggle in this most urgent of humanity's needs.

"Warmest greetings, PAUL ROBESON."

D. Activity of the Communist Party  
Concerning the Distribution of  
ROBESON's Book, "Here I Stand"

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at the Southern California CP District meeting held on March 9, 1958, at Los Angeles, California, it was reported that the CP in that area, through its leaders, stated that it is very important that they support PAUL ROBESON's book and that they should utilize ROBESON while he is on the Pacific Coast. b7D

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the Harlem Region CP intended to hold a Regional Committee meeting on either March 21 or 24, 1958, at Bermuda Hall, New York City, to promote the sale of ROBESON's book.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at a CP meeting held in Chicago on [redacted] CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA, spoke at the meeting and stated that his main point in asking for the floor was to promote the sale of ROBESON's book. He stated that this book must be sold in every store in the south side of Chicago and he desired every person present to pledge to sell at least ten copies.

LIGHTFOOT stated to read ROBESON's book is to be convinced that the Marxist stand that

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ROBESON has taken on the Negro question is the correct position.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a meeting of the [redacted] CP was held on [redacted] at [redacted] New York City. The informant stated that BENJAMIN DAVIS, New York State CP Chairman, was the featured speaker at this meeting and he described the recently published book of PAUL ROBESON as "a magnificent weapon, a magnificent cultural and political event." He stated that this book would be a weapon for the CP to go through in the fight for civil rights and for peace and to wake up the whole campaign for ROBESON to get his passport. DAVIS stated the CP should try to "shoot" on the sale of 3,000 volumes of the book.

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[redacted] advised on April 7, 1958, that a New York State Board meeting was held on that date at CP Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, New York City. At this meeting BILL ALBERTSON spoke on the importance of PAUL ROBESON's book and suggested selling 25,000 copies, since he sees it as the basis for once again reestablishing them in the Negro peoples movement.

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ALBERTSON said the book would be sold to the Party and the State for sixty cents a copy and he suggested that the State CP sell it to the County CP for sixty-five cents and that they in turn sell it for a dollar.

WILLIAM WEINSTONE also spoke at this meeting and stated that the comrades must not underestimate the importance of ROBESON's book.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a CP conference on the Negro question was held by the [redacted] Communist Party on [redacted] in New York City.

BEN DAVIS spoke at this meeting at length on PAUL ROBESON's book which he said clearly outlined a complete program in mass work. DAVIS stated that ROBESON's book should be accepted as Party policy on the Negro question and should be endorsed by the conference.

DAVIS stated that there were 100,000 copies of this book in print and that 25,000 were to be distributed in the New York area. He stated that it was the duty of each club and section to take as many of these books as possible and see that they were sold and distributed widely.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that it was announced at a meeting of the CP Harlem Tenants Club on [redacted] that the first edition of PAUL ROBESON's book had been sold out. It was stated that this book had received a wonderful response all over the country.

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[redacted] advised on May 28, 1958, that a meeting of the Industrial Board, Industrial Division, New York State CP, was held at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Avenue, New York City, on May 28, 1958. At this meeting, one of the speakers described ROBESON's book as "a manifesto of the Negro people." The speaker stated that ROBESON's book is the formula for the accomplishment of the alliance between the Negro people and the labor movement. The goal of the Communist Party is to guarantee the sale of 100,000 copies of ROBESON's book primarily in the Negro community. The Industrial Division of the CP has a goal of 40,000 books. b7D

The speaker commented that the most important thing the Party can do to advertise unity of the Negroes and the white people and in the struggle for Negro rights is to promote the sale of ROBESON's book.

[redacted] on [redacted] furnished a copy of a letter prepared by JAMES JACKSON, a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA, which letter was directed "To All Districts", relative to ROBESON's book. This letter is set forth as follows: b7D

"July 25, 1958

"TO ALL DISTRICTS

"Dear Friends:

"Paul Robeson in London is everywhere received with that sort of acclaim usually reserved by Britons for members of.

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"the royal family.

"The echoes of Robeson abroad will continue to make news in our country's press for months to come. If you read the Negro press you are already aware that he is the object of a full dress "rediscovery." The Afro-American has carried two successive editorial cartoons, lengthy editorials and feature articles of appreciation of him and the principles for which he stands.

"All this means that the possibilities for extending the sale of his book are greater than ever. The most heartfelt reception has been accorded booksellers who cover the entrances to the numerous church conventions which are taking place in many cities during the summer months. All the college summer schools provide a market for eager purchasers. News stalls which may have turned down handling the book when it was first made available now accept it for sale. Let us continue to promote the sale of the book HERE I STAND during the remaining summer weeks -- whether at home or on vacation.

"The publishers announce new and attractive wholesale terms:

"Orders direct to OTHELLO ASSOCIATES,  
INC.,  
P. O. Box 283,  
Manhattanville  
Station  
New York 27, N. Y.

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"will be filled on day of receipt of order  
and cash, at the rate of

50 ¢ per copy for the  
\$1.00 edition in lots  
of 100 or more with  
shipping costs being  
absorbed by the  
publisher.

"Orders in lots of less than 100  
will continue at the same cost to the  
wholesaler -- that is at 60¢ per copy.

"Please make a big and prompt  
investment in this project now.

"Sincerely yours,

"JJ/el

"JAMES E. JACKSON

E. Activity in Connection with  
ROBESON's 60th Birthday  
Celebration

The "New York Mirror" of March 22, 1958,  
in its editorial that NEHRU of India was lending  
support in India to an unusual campaign, that of  
"whooping it up for American signer PAUL ROBESON in  
a celebration of ROBESON's 60th birthday, April 9th."

NEHRU also described ROBESON as a

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sufferer in the cause for human dignity.

[REDACTED] advised on March 27, 1958, that on that date, a New York State Staff meeting took place at CP Headquarters, New York City. b7D

At this meeting BEN DAVIS suggested that one of the things that the Party concentrate on was ROBESON's birthday celebration on April 9, 1958.

The "New York Times", late city edition, issue of April 2, 1958, page 35, contained the following article:

"BERLIN, April 1 (Reuters)

"Neues Deutschland, East German Communist newspaper, said today that a Paul Robeson Society has been founded in East Germany and plans to hold a ceremony on April 9, the sixtieth birthday of the singer.

"The aim of the society is to help Mr. Robeson get a passport so he can accept the 'numerous invitations from abroad,' Neues Deutschland said."

"The Worker" issue of April 27, 1958, page seven, column two, contained an editorial captioned, "Celebrations in Bulgaria." It stated:

"SOFIA (by cable): The biggest concert hall in Bulgaria was filled at the concert honoring Paul Robeson on his

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"sixtieth birthday April 9.

"Peoples' Artist, Mikhail Popov, well-known basso of the Sofia National Opera said, "Paul Robeson has devoted his art to the triumph of peace and friendship among people."

"George Pirinsky, vice president of the Bulgarian Peace Committee spoke on significant moments of Robeson's life in the fight for peace and democracy. Pirinsky said, 'Today when in London and New Delhi, Moscow, Berlin, Sofia and Prague men in all walks of life and professions celebrate Robeson's 60th anniversary, the Bulgarian peace fighters appreciate his contribution to the fight for peace, democracy and social progress. Robeson's name and voice has spread the world over, inspiring crusaders against racist discrimination.'

"Robeson's birthday was also honored in other Bulgarian cities like Plovdiv, Bourgas, Rousse. Many messages were sent to the great American artist."

"The Worker" of April 27, 1958, page six, column three, contained an article written by ROBESON's wife, ESLANDA ROBESON, captioned, "How World Greeted Paul Robeson." This article stated:

"Throughout seven long years of persecution Paul Robeson has been sustained by the knowledge that many people in many places, near and far, have continued

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"to respect him and remain steadfastly loyal to him as an artist and as a man.

"These people, whose number runs into hundreds of millions, have assured Paul from time to time that they consider him a great artist and a courageous human being. They have been indignant because the U. S. Department of State continues to deny him his right to travel, preventing them from hearing him sing and act. They have, upon occasion, arranged trans-Atlantic telephone concerts in order to hear his 'live' voice.

"This year, friends, neighbors, colleagues and admirers all over the world decided to honor Paul Robeson by celebrating his 60th birthday (April 9th). Formal and informal Paul Robeson Birthday Committees were organized in Australia, Bulgaria, Ceylon, China, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the USSR and the USA.

"On or about April 9th these Committees held concerts, meetings, radio and television programs in which distinguished academicians, scientists, theatre and film personalities took part. Together with many groups and individuals, they sent Paul Robeson cables, telegrams, letters, cards and presents for his birthday. These continue to pour in,

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"more than a week after the birthday.

"Telephone calls and greetings came to our home from Accra, Armavir, Azerbaijan, Berlin, Bombay, Brooklyn, Bucharest, Budapest, Calcutta, Detroit, Kalinin, Kazan, Kiev, Kingston, Leningrad, London, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Moscow, New Delhi, New Haven, New York, Odesa, Peking, Paris, Port-au-Prince, Prague, Reykjavik (Iceland), Rostov, San Diego, Sofia, South Norwalk, Stalingrad, Stockholm, Sydney, Tashkent, Tiflis, Tokyo, Ulan Bator, ((Mongolia)), Vienna, Vilnius, Warsaw, Washington, D.C., and many other places."

Referred  
to  
Department  
of  
State  
for their  
review  
and return  
to the  
FBI

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[REDACTED]

← Referred to the Dept. of State for their review and return to the FBI

[REDACTED] advised on May 6, 1958, that a meeting of the Regional Council of the Industrial Division, New York State CP, was held on that date at the New York Palace Theatre, 111 East Houston Street, New York City. One of the topics of discussion at this meeting was a report on PAUL ROBESON's birthday celebration.

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"The Worker" of June 15, 1958, page six, column one, contains an article captioned, "Peking Letter." In this article it is stated:

"Paul Robeson's 60th birthday was celebrated in China as an event of major international significance. For two days preceding his birthday and on the day itself the national radio network played recordings of his songs. On April 9th, the entire cultural page of China's leading newspaper, the People's Daily, was devoted to articles about Paul - there were five of them - as well as a poem in his honor, plus a

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"cartoon of a mighty figure of Paul singing of peace, while little policemen frantically and vainly build a clapnet barricade around his feet.

"In Peking's new and beautiful Capital Theatre, a rally meeting was staged that lasted over three hours. On the presidium sat some of the top figures in China's intellectual world ~~X~~ Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the All-China Federation of Writers and Artists; ~~X~~ Chu Tu-man, head of the Chinese People's Association of Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; and several of China's foremost dramatists and musicians.

CHINA

"There were speeches and a chorus singing a song composed for the occasion, comparing Paul to a lion who could not be caged. After the congratulatory cables being sent that afternoon were read aloud, there was a showing of the special film short Paul had made in conjunction with Earl Robinson. Both artists were very well received, with the audience bursting into applause after nearly every number."

F. Activity in Connection with Foreign Travel

The "New York Times" issue of June 26, 1958, page twenty-two, column four, contains an article

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captioned, "Robeson To Leave For Britain Soon," by LOUIS CALTA. This article is set forth as follows:

"Paul Robeson, who for the last eight years has been denied a passport, will be able to leave for London within a fortnight to fulfill stage, concert and television commitments there.

"News of the actor-singer's imminent departure was made known yesterday by his lawyer, Leonard B. Boudin." Mr. Boudin said that officials of the Passport Office of the State Department in Washington informed him yesterday morning that the document would be 'issued to Mr. Robeson as quickly as possible or in about five days.'

"Mr. Robeson's plans include discussions with British producers about a London presentation of 'Othello,' with himself in the title role, and conferences with Harold Davison, Ltd., a theatrical, band and concert agency. He last appeared on the London stage in 1936 in a play called 'Toussaint L'Ouverture.'

"There is a possibility that the performer also will appear at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in Stratford-on-Avon. Last February Mr. Robeson had sought a 'limited' passport to appear at the celebrated theatre as Gower in 'Pericles.'

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"However, the State Department refused to process Mr. Robeson's application. A recent Supreme Court decision voided State Department regulations denying passports to persons of allegedly doubtful loyalty. On Tuesday the State Department announced that the performer, among other rejected applicants, would shortly receive his passport."

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that [redacted] in an official report [redacted] of the CP through leading CP members, [redacted] was identified as a CP member. The informant further stated [redacted] to have been associated with Communist friends.

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The Passport Office, Department of State, advised in June, 1958, that PAUL ROBESON was being issued Passport Number 1145187 to travel to Europe for the purpose of singing and acting.

[redacted] advised on July 10, 1958, that BENJAMIN DAVIS was visited on that date at his residence by LLOYD BROWN, a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA. During this visit, DAVIS and BROWN discussed the fact that ROBESON had left the country and expressed their delight on the fact that he was able to leave.

DAVIS commented that if it had been left to the President of the United States they would not have let ROBESON go abroad.

The "New York Times", late city edition,

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section one, page eight, column five, dated July 11, 1958, contained the following article captioned, "Robeson Off to Europe After an 8-Year Battle." The article is set forth as follows:

"Paul Robeson, who had been barred for eight years from leaving the country because he refused to sign a nonCommunist affidavit for a passport, left for London yesterday to start a series of concerts.

"The singer received his passport recently after the Supreme Court had invalidated the State Department's requirement for the affidavit. Departing from New York International Airport at Idlewild, Queens, Mr. Robeson said he would give concerts in Europe, including Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union.

"Mr. Robeson was asked if he planned to stay abroad. He replied: 'This is my land. My grandfather and father were born here, too, and I don't plan to leave it.'"

"L'Humanite", French Communist daily, on July 21, 1958, printed a message from "the great colored American singer, PAUL ROBESON," which was read at the plenary session of the World Peace Council at Stockholm, Sweden, on July 20, 1958, by Mrs. ANNA LOUISE STRONG. This statement read as follows:

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"You have come from all corners of the Earth, and you represent different political opinions, nations and cultures.

"Once more the noble words of Joliot-Curie have resounded at Stockholm: 'The people themselves must impose the peace.' There is still time. The world must know that the colored people want to be masters of their destiny and of their resources.

"The warmongers must understand that the ratio of strength has changed radically. They must understand that the aspirations of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America can never, never be broken.

"I send you my best wishes for your labors. Millions and millions of people on this Earth are at your sides.

"With my deep affection.

"PAUL ROBESON."

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The "New York Herald Tribune", page seven, July 12, 1958, issue contained an article captioned, "Robeson, In Britain, Balks at 'Red' Query." This article is set forth as follows:

"LONDON, July 11. -

"Paul Robeson bounced down out of a trans-Atlantic air liner at London Airport today, beaming and smiling and singing snatches of 'Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,' but a little later things clouded over when he was asked at a press conference whether he is a Communist.

"'There are certain questions one does not have to answer,' he said. 'I know you are friendly, but this is the essence of our constitutional right. I stand on my right not to answer. I could ask you the same question and you would not have to answer it.'

"The questioner persisted that it would not matter in Great Britain if he did answer it - to which Mr. Robeson replied: 'It does in our country, and it is not a friendly question.'

"Otherwise, with more than 100 persons on hand to cheer him at the airport and a lot of friendly newspaper

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"comment on his return to Britain after having been denied a passport for eight years, his comments were all happy ones.

"He said he intends to tour Britain, the continent of Europe and the Soviet Union and then return to the United States.

"Denied a passport for several years, he obtained one recently after the United States Supreme Court ruled that the State Department had no right to refuse passports because of a person's associations."

[REDACTED]

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The "New York Times", late city edition, issue of August 16, 1958, page ten, contained an article captioned, "Robeson in Moscow." This article is set forth as follows:

"Singer Welcomed at Airport  
on Arrival for Tour

"London, Aug. 15 (Reuters)

"Paul Robeson, American singer,

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"arrived with his wife Eslanda, in Moscow by air today, Tass, the Soviet news agency, said.

"At the Vnukovo Airport near Moscow he was met by his Moscow friends, leaders of the Soviet Peace Defenders Committee, artists, musicians and journalists. He was welcomed by Nikolai A. Mikhailov, Soviet Minister of Culture.

"After the throng began to applaud, Mr. Robeson dropped his two suitcases and hat to clap his hands in time with the welcomers - a Slavic custom.

"Mr. Robeson will give concerts in Moscow, which he last visited nine years ago, and in various cities of the Central Asian republics, Tass said.

"The singer is expected to give his first concert Sunday at Moscow's Palace of Sports, which seats 14,000. He will fly to Paris after two weeks of engagements, but is expected to return later for a tour of Soviet cities."

"New York Daily News", final edition, August 18, 1958, page six, contains an article captioned, "Robeson to Reds: You Inspired Mr." This article stated as follows:

"London, Aug. 17 (Reuters)

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"Singer Paul Robeson told Muscovites today that they had inspired him with strength. He gave a concert and speech in Lenin Stadium. The program was broadcast by Moscow radio. 'I am here because you have been helping me, have been inspiring me with strength,' he said in Russian.

The "New York Times," late city edition, August 18, 1958, page six, contained an article captioned, "Robeson, in Russia, Cites Soviet Amity." This article is set forth as follows:

"Moscow, Aug. 17 (AP)

"Paul Robeson called on the Soviet people today to fight for freedom. He did not specify what freedom or for whom, but he spoke and sang in general terms of man's right to be free.

"When I read in America about the sputnik,' he told a concert audience here, 'my thoughts went out to my friends, the peoples of the Soviet Union whose minds and hands have created this miracle, opening up to mankind the boundless expanse of the cosmos.'

"The American Negro singer is idolized in the Soviet Union for his voice as well as his Left-wing views. He was introduced to a packed house of 12,000 persons at the Moscow Sports Palace as the Soviet Union's 'great and dear friend' and as a fighter for peace

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"and friendship throughout the world."

"It was Mr. Robeson's first concert appearance in the Soviet Union since he visited here nine years ago. He has said he intends to make a singing tour of many Soviet cities before returning to the United States in October."

The "New York Herald Tribune", late city edition, issue of August 30, 1958, page seven, contains an article captioned, "Khrushchev Sees Robeson." This article is set forth below:

"Moscow, Aug. 29 (UPI)

"Soviet Prime Minister Nikita S. Khrushchev had a 'friendly and cordial talk' with American singer Paul Robeson in the Crimean resort of Yalta, the Moscow radio reported today.

"Mr. Khrushchev, who is on a vacation, met Mr. Robeson and his wife, Eslanda, in the Nizhnyaya Oreanda health sanatorium. Mr. Robeson sang for Soviet pioneers at the Artek camp the same evening in a performance attended by Mr. Khrushchev. The broadcast did not say when the meeting took place."

### III. MISCELLANEOUS

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Chicago Citizens Committee

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[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the Chicago Citizens Committee was organized by ISH FLORY, 51 formerly known as a Communist Party member in the south side of Chicago. It is not known whether FLORY is a Communist Party member. b7D

The Chicago Citizens Committee was formed for the purpose of sponsoring a recital that was given by PAUL ROBESON at the Parkway Ballroom on April 13, 1958. This was a "one shot deal" and it is not believed that there will be any further functions sponsored by this Committee.

It is not possible to say that this was a Communist organization or dominated Committee since there were various individuals on the Committee who are prominent Negroes in Chicago who are known to be anti-Communist.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that on April 13, 1958, a reception was held by the Chicago Citizens Committee for PAUL ROBESON at the Parkway Community Ballroom, Chicago, Illinois. b7D

PAUL ROBESON spoke at this reception regarding Communists. He stated our worse enemy is our own Government and not the Communists. He remarked the Secretary of State could not choose his, ROBESON, friends for him. He stated that he likes Soviets and Red China. ROBESON stated he does not care for the Chinese of Formosa.

ROBESON described CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT as a good man and a friend of his.

~~SECRET~~



~~SECRET~~

NY 100-25857

He urged those present to see to it that LIGHTFOOT walks the streets as a free man whenever he chooses.

The informant stated that ROBESON's talk was clearly anti-United States Government with emphasis on criticism of President EISENHOWER and Secretary of State DULLES.

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that at the affair in honor of PAUL ROBESON held at the Parkway Ballroom, Chicago, Illinois, on April 15, 1958, PAUL ROBESON spoke and reaffirmed his intention of continuing his fight for his people and for his passport. He urged all present to fight for their rights as individuals in spite of the fact that many fighters for Negro rights were falsely labeled Communists. b7D

ROBESON stated that he looked forward to the time when people like CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT would walk the streets a free man. He stated that LIGHTFOOT and his followers were not trying to overthrow the government but were simply struggling for the rights of the Negro people.

ROBESON deplored the political attitude where free people were denied the right to hold the political belief of their own choice.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

NY 100-25857

"PEOPLES WORLD" (Formerly "Daily People's World")

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of January 2, 1957, to supersede the Guide published on May 14, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning "People's World":

1. "The official organ of the Communist Party on the west coast."  
(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 95; also cited in Annual Report, H. R. 1, January 3, 1941, p. 10.)"

- P\* -

~~SECRET~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED

INMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 9/15/58

FROM :

SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SUBJECT:

PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.  
IS - C

Enclosed herewith are four copies of the report of SA [REDACTED] and four copies of a letterhead memorandum reflecting the reliability of informants, dated and captioned as above.

REFERENCES

Report of SA [REDACTED] at New York, 3/20/58.

Bureau airtel to New York, May 12, 1958.

New York letter to Bureau, June 18, 1958.

Report of SA [REDACTED] July 22, 1958, 1-16-81  
at WFO.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 EJC/dw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-2-93  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-2011

ADMINISTRATIVE

Subject's wife, ESLANDA GOGDE ROBESON, New York file 100-56680, Bufile 100-12304, is carried on the Security Index of the New York Office.

ROBESON is a key figure of the New York Office.

2-Bureau (100-12304) (Encls. 8) (RM)  
3-New York (100-25857)

JW:mbb  
(5)

REC.D 181

ENCLOSURE  
REC-76  
FBI REC-76

100-12304-541

SEP 16 1958

DEC 30 11 33 AM '58

58 OCT 1 1958

CONFIDENTIAL



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Referenced Bureau airtel above stated that attempts should be made to determine whether the CP would benefit financially as a result of the campaign by the CP on behalf of the sale of ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand." Investigation in this regard is set forth as follows:

(C) [redacted] a source close to [redacted]  
[redacted] is contacted on a continuing basis and has furnished no information which indicates that the CP has benefited financially by the sale of ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand."

(C) [redacted] a source close to [redacted]  
[redacted] CP members, is contacted on a continuing basis and has furnished no information which indicates that the CP has benefited financially from the sale of ROBESON's book.

(C) [redacted] and (C) [redacted] sources close to [redacted]  
[redacted] CP, USA, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, are contacted on a continuing basis, and also furnished no information which indicates the CP has benefited financially from the sale of ROBESON's book.

The following information is set forth in this cover letter because of the phonetic pronunciation of some of the information received:

(C) [redacted] advised on April 21, 1958, that WILLIAM Z. FOSTER was visited at his residence on that date by WILLIAM WEINSTONE. During the course of the ensuing conversation, WEINSTONE stated that PAUL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

ROBESON is for the following standards for Negro equality:

1. Full citizenship here and now;
2. Development of "Negro" (phonetic) political action;
3. A Negro peoples convention for a common "fund" (phonetic);
4. Leadership which is free of white supervision;
5. A leadership that does not bend its knee to "good" white folk.

Continuing, WEINSTONE said that he thinks that ROBESON underestimates the question in the South and does not call outright for the working class to lead the struggle. He stated ROBESON places the most weight to the churches.

[REDACTED] reported on May 18, 1958, that LLOYD BROWN and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., both members of the National Committee of the CP, USA, conferred briefly at DAVIS' residence on that date. b1

Evidently referring to PAUL ROBESON and ROBESON's book, BROWN said next week in both "The Courier" and "Afro" that "we" will have another of "our" ads. He said he had a new heading, that being "Ike says later, Paul now." DAVIS indicated this was a very good heading.

BROWN said someone had told him that

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

the "Negro Summit Conference" was inspired by "this thing." DAVIS said this shows "that when we begin to move, even though we don't participate, it forces others to move."

BROWN stated that in the "New York Age" that week, (A. PHILLIP) RANDOLPH's speech is reported and the speech is right out of the book (ROBESON's ?) on the subject of white allies. BROWN said he (RANDOLPH) says there is only one place where Negro leadership is to be responsible to the Negro masses and "our fate is in our own hands." BROWN commented that the procedure seems to be to take over the ideas of the left. DAVIS replied, "We're very happy for them to do that."

BROWN went on to say that "even old ADAM (CLAYTON POWELL)" has come out with some statements. DAVIS, in referring to POWELL, said he is red-baiting less and less and that this is very important. DAVIS continued that POWELL has stated in the papers that "next to the Communists, he is the most persecuted person" and that POWELL has also said "whether these demonstrations in South America were Communist inspired or not...." DAVIS commented that these things are very important.

Continuing, DAVIS said he felt some more of "that stuff" came out of the book (ROBESON's) and that the book is going to be like TOM PAINE's "Common Sense" as far as Negroes are concerned. DAVIS said he would like to get a couple of special spots for the book - one involves PAUL sending an autographed copy; the other is how "they" can get books from "our people."

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NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
--------------------------	---	------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------

T-1 [REDACTED] (c)

T-2 [REDACTED] (c)

T-3 [REDACTED] (c)

T-4 [REDACTED] (c)

T-5 [REDACTED] (c)

T-6 [REDACTED] (c)

100-25857-3682

b1  
b7C  
b7D

100-25857-3519

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

511

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
T-7 [redacted] (c)		✓		LA 100-1763D

T-8 Deleted

T-9 [redacted] (c)

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

b1  
b7D

T-10 [redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

T-11 [redacted] (c)

T-12 [redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

58

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
--------------------------	---	------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------

T-13

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED]

T-14

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

T-15

[REDACTED] (C)

b1  
b7D

T-16

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

T-17

[REDACTED] (C)

T-18

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-  
3299

T-19

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-  
3292

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
--------------------------	---	------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------

T-20

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

T-21

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

b1  
b7D

T-22

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (C)

T-23

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (C)

T-24

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

T-25

[REDACTED] (C)

T-26

[REDACTED] (C)

T-27  
Foreign Service  
Dispatch,  
The Dept. of  
State,  
Washington, D.C.

100-25857-  
3594

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

60

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
--------------------------	---	------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------

T-28

[REDACTED] (C)

T-29

[REDACTED] (C)

T-30

[REDACTED] (C) [REDACTED]

T-31

[REDACTED] (C)

T-32

[REDACTED] (C)

T-33

[REDACTED] (C)

T-34

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-3897

b1  
b7C  
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will remain alert for information concerning the return of ROBESON to the United States and upon his return, will closely follow and report his activities. ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ This report is classified ~~secret~~ because (state reason) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

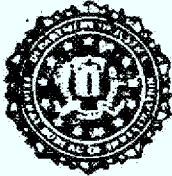
8. ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) not in country.

9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

ROBESON was National Chairman of the Council on African Affairs until its dissolution in June, 1955. ROBESON also has close contacts with National leaders of the CP, USA. Further during visit abroad he met with NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

67



United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
New York, New York  
September 15, 1958

Re: Paul Leroy Robeson, with aliases  
Internal Security - C

All informants mentioned in the report of  
Special Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned as above,  
have furnished reliable information in the past, except  
[REDACTED] who were in a position to furnish reliable  
information. b7C b7D

This memorandum is loaned to you by the FBI  
and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside  
the agency to which loaned.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJA/HW

04 0146 0148  
AGENCY *Lab, State, CIA*  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. *10-7-58*  
HOW FORW. *43-*  
BY *BR/ma*

0-6 0146/0148  
AGENCY *Lab, State, CIA*  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. *9-26-58*  
HOW FORW. *43-*  
BY *BR/ma*

100-12304-541  
ENCLOSURE  
64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 9/16/58

FROM : LEGAT, BONN (105-720)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL ATTACHED~~

Remylet 8/23/58.

Enclosed are one copy for the Bureau and one copy for London

of

The enclosed is being furnished to record the contact of the subject in England.

P.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc-1)
- 1 - London (Enc-1) (For information - sent direct)
- (3) GAV:tlc

9-1  
Enc-1  
9-1  
Referre. to the Dept of the Army for their review and direct response to you

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5RIJ/Luh

AGENCY ccny  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 10-7-58  
HOW FORW. 105-720  
BY BP/mad

~~CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL ATTACHED~~  
EX-128  
REC-54

100-12304-542

25 SEP 24 1958

ENCLOSURE  
REC-54

EX-128

50 OCT 2 1958

SUBV CONTROL

Not for Sec (info)

65



XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of the Army, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBI Headquarters File 100-12304-542 (Enclosure)

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of State, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBI Headquarters file 100-12304 - Not Recorded Black Stamp date  
10-14-58.

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robeson

Text of recorded interview with Mr. and Mrs. Robeson on the eve of their departure from the Soviet Union (as broadcast in the English service for Africa), introduced as follows: "Our programme today is devoted to Paul Robeson, the well-known American singer and fighter for peace and for the rights of the Negro people. Because of his progressive activities, Paul Robeson has repeatedly been persecuted by the racists, who have stopped at nothing. They have even gone so far as to try to lynch him. But their attempts to silence Paul Robeson, singer of freedom, have been in vain."

Interviewer: Mrs. Robeson as an authority on Africa, especially on South Africa, will you say a couple of words to our African friends abroad?

Mrs. Eslanda Robeson: Well, I don't really consider myself an authority on Africa, but certainly I consider myself deeply interested in the whole of Africa, the African people. As a descendant of African people, and so partly an African myself, I am naturally interested in everything concerning my remote background and my distant brothers and sisters. I consider all African people my distant brothers and sisters. Now, the first thing I would like for them, as I would like for my compatriots in America, the Negro people, is freedom. There is nothing more important than freedom and self-government, so that you can arrange your life and work for your future and for your children.

I have the greatest admiration for African women. I know a great deal about how they have participated in the struggle for self-government, against colonialism. It has been a long, hard struggle, and the women have been steadfast. They have stood beside their men, and they have struggled right along with them. I have the greatest admiration for them. I hope for African children, as I hope for my grandchildren, that they will be able to live in a world of peace and freedom, in good health, and get a good education and arrange for their lives for perhaps the first time in a long time, the way they want to arrange them, in the way they think best for them - not what somebody else says, but what they think best is for them. This is my hope for the African people, and especially African children.

"SUMMARY OF WORLD BROADCASTS"  
BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

9/26/58 Re: PAUL LEROY ROBESON

IS - C

50 OCT 16 1958 BUFILE 100-12304

EX-102

NOT RECORDED  
OFFICE OF THE ATTACHE  
16 OCT 8 1958  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
— LONDON, ENGLAND.

File 100-12304  
S-BR

SUPPLEMENTAL CONTROL

68



Interviewer: Thank you very much, Mrs. Robeson. And now Mr. Robeson, I would like you to say to our African friends abroad about your impressions of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Paul Robeson: I would first, however, like to express my great pleasure at being able to speak directly, as my wife has said, to a people from whom I spring. And especially in America for many years we had a council on African affairs which was deeply interested in what was going on in South Africa, and much help came from us to the peoples of South Africa, and I hope for you there all success in your tribulations today, when they have many of the African leaders on trial, purely because they are struggling for their people. And I, as my wife has suggested, hope for your freedom, and the abilities to control your own destinies and your own resources.

We have been now in the Soviet Union for the better part of a month. As you know in Africa, or parts of Africa, I have long been a friend of the Soviet Union. I first came here in 1934, and my boy, who also visited Africa with Mrs. Robeson, visited South Africa and East Africa, went to school here in the Soviet Union. I just had a chance to see the Soviet Union for the first time in nine years. I was here last in 1949, and have seen remarkable achievements, achievements which you all know about - the Sputnik, and the great advances in science. You would be astounded to see the advances in construction, in every part of the development. I was in the factories. I saw tremendous agricultural development, the new homes all over the Soviet Union. And I was in Uzbekistan - somewhat similar to the lives which you who (live) your lives in Africa, but in one generation they are functioning as well as any other section of these great Soviet Republics.

I myself feel very deeply, as you know perhaps from my book and other things, that our development, not only in Africa, but in Asia, from the Negro people of America and all the coloured peoples of the earth, that we are able to think about freedom, able to struggle towards our freedom precisely because of the existence of the powerful countries of the socialist world, led by the Soviet Union, by mighty China and by the people's democracies. And so I am here only as a visitor. I am here, as I have said many times, as a firm and true friend of the Soviet people, because they are our friends, Hope to see you later (word indistinct).

Interviewer: Thank you very much, Mr. and Mrs. Robeson. (Moscow in English for Africa 07.00, 21.9.58)

2

69

Office

C. m. • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE 10/16/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-56680)

SUBJECT: ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was.  
SM - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5P/LW

ESLANDA ROBESON and her husband, PAUL ROBESON, have been in Europe since 7/10/58.

The "New York Times", Late City Edition, dated 9/22/58, page 26, contains an article captioned: "Robeson Intends to Live in London - But singer says he is not deserting U.S. - Foresees concerts in New York."

This article is set forth as follows:

"Blackpool, England, Sept. 21 (Reuters) - Paul Robeson said here tonight that he would make his future home in London.

'I find the British people very warm and I have lived here before', the American singer declared. 'London will be my center, as Hollywood is the center for some British film stars.'

'I don't want any overtones of suggestion that I am deserting the country of my birth', Mr. Robeson added. 'If I have a concert in New York, I will go there and return to London.'

An FD 122 has been submitted to the effect that ESLANDA ROBESON is out of the country and should be placed in the "Unavailable Section" of the Security Index.

Appropriate legats should be alerted to furnish information to the effect that ESLANDA ROBESON is to return to this country to accompany her husband, PAUL, on concert tours or for other purposes.

A closing report will be submitted to bring ESLANDA ROBESON's activities up to date.

OCT 31 10 25 AM '58 REC-85

4 - Bureau (100-12304) (RM)  
1 - New York (100-56680)

OCT 16 1958

JDW:mmc  
(5) AGENCY

REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
HOW FORW.  
BY

AGENCY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
HOW FORW.  
BY

AGENCY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
HOW FORW.  
BY

66 OCT 29 1958

SUB CONTROL

70

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 10/17/58 *Legione*

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.  
IS - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5/SK/SP/SPRerep of SA [REDACTED] at NY, 9/15/58. *67C 10A JTB*

The "New York Times," late city edition, issue 9/22/58, page 26, contains an article captioned:

"ROBESON Intends to Live in London -- But Singer says he is not Deserting U.S. - Foresees Concerts in New York."

Context of this article set forth as follows:

"Blackpool, England, Sept. 21 (Reuters) -- Paul Robeson said here tonight that he would make his future home in London.

"I find the British people very warm and I have lived here before," the American singer declared. "London will be my center, as Hollywood is the center for some film stars.

"I don't want any overtones of suggestion that I am deserting the country of my birth," Mr. Robeson added. "If I have a concert in New York, I will go there and return to London."

In view of the above, it is recommended that ROBESON be removed from the Key Figure list of the NYO. An FD-122 has been previously submitted to place ROBESON in the "Unavailable Section" of the Security Index.

It is requested appropriate Legal Attaches be alerted to the fact that ROBESON will be living abroad so that when information is received that he is returning to the U.S. for concerts or other purposes, his activities may be followed in this country. *Bo*

In view of the above, this case is being closed.

- 4 - Bureau (100-12304) (RM)
- 1 - New York 100-96900 (KEY FIGURE CONTROL)
- 1 - New York 100-25857

JDW:epo:mms  
(6)

REC-55

EX - 133

OCT 20 1958

100-12304-545  
 CONTROL  
 RECD  
 DATE FORW.  
 HOW FORW.  
 BY

*Let to NY  
 10-28-58  
 BCR/fhm*



Mr. Haack  
1 - Mr. Rachner

SAC, New York (100-25857)

October 28, 1958

REC-93

Director, FBI (100-12304)-545

PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

EX-102

Reurlet 10-17-58.

DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJ/HW

The Bureau does not concur with your recommendation that Robeson be deleted from the Key Figure List of your office.

It is apparent that Robeson's sympathies for the communist movement and the Soviet Union are well established. His activities and sympathies, coupled with the extensive international publicity afforded him as a prominent controversial figure, have certainly contributed greatly to the communist movement in the United States and abroad. It is also apparent that the Soviet Union, the Communist Party, USA, and other communist groups abroad will continue to take advantage of Robeson's prominence and influence to promote communist interests to the detriment of the United States Government. In this regard, it would appear that Robeson's increased activities, occasioned by the recent issuance of his passport, will enhance his value to the movement which in turn will increase his potential dangerousness to the national security of the United States.

As a basis for deleting Robeson as a key figure, you noted in relet Robeson's recent decision, which he stated publicly, to make his future home in London. It is noted, however, that Robeson at the same time made it clear that he was not renouncing his United States citizenship. He emphasized that he was not deserting the country of his birth; that he was making London the center of his activities just as some foreign stars make Hollywood the center of their activities; and that he would return to the United States for concert engagements. In view of Robeson's statements, coupled with the continued residence of his son and family in the United States, it is feasible that he may spend considerable time in the United States in the future.

MAILED 11  
OCT 28 1958  
COMM-FBI

BCR:fbm  
(5) jmm

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE 2

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

OCT 30 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

OCT 28 1958

JFB/MDH  
7288

Letter to New York  
RE: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
100-12304

In line with the above comments and observations, it is felt that Robeson continues to be of sufficient importance and potential dangerousness from an internal security standpoint to require his immediate apprehension in the event of an emergency. Consequently, he should be retained as a key figure of your office and his case handled accordingly.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Robeson is noted Negro concert singer who has long supported communist and communist front groups and who has been outspoken in his praise for the Soviet Union. For many years communist groups have capitalized on Robeson's prominence, influence, and publicity as a propaganda medium. Since the issuance of his passport he has traveled extensively in Russia and Europe where he has been well received and where he has obtained widespread publicity. In view of his decision to make London his home and center of activities, New York Office recommended that he be deleted as a key figure. It is felt, however, that Robeson's current activities and freedom to travel enhance his value to the communist movement. It is, therefore, felt that his potential dangerousness to the internal security of the United States is increased. It may also be noted that Robeson will undoubtedly return to the United States on many occasions for concert engagements and for the purpose of visiting with his family.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 10/17/58

FROM : SAC, New York (100-56680)

Cards UTD  
Cards Sent 00  
10/28/58  
Haw-SUBJECT: ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was  
SM - C

"UNAVAILABLE SECTION"

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.☐ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJL/KW		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify)	Out of Country	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) Travelling in Europe		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		100-12304- NOT RECORDED responsibility 23 OCT 20 1958
Interested Agencies		
Residence Address Travelling in Europe		

JDW:ecf

52 OCT 29 1958  
REGISTERED MAIL

SUBV. CONTROL

C. E. Leonard

74



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 10/23/58

FROM : Legat, London (100-1182) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Remylet 9/8/58. (u)

[REDACTED] b1/24  
[REDACTED] (c)  
[REDACTED] (u)  
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 KAT/PLW 1-16-81  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10/23/88  
100-12304-546

REC'D - FBI

5 - Bureau  
1 - London  
JAC:lc  
(6)Classified by 2650 YLR  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
MAY 24 1977AGENCY 2006 NY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 10-30-58  
HOW FORW. 25020  
BY 267/100

59 OCT 30 1958 EX-101 2030

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12 OCT 28 1958

SUBV. CONTROL

73

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

CS

AIRTEL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)  
FROM SAC, WFO (100-24387) (100-19021)

10/17/58

PAUL ROBESON, ~~SM~~  
SM - C  
(OO: NY)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE

Referred  
to the  
Dept  
of  
State  
for their  
review  
and  
return  
to  
the  
FBI,

[REDACTED] (C)(u)

[REDACTED] (C)(u)

[REDACTED] (C)(u)

The "Thermo-fax" copy is being forwarded to the New York Office. WFO is not conducting any further investigation. RUC. (u)(u)

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - New York (Encl. 1) (100-95550) (100-25957)
- 1 - WFO

BHK:mw  
(5)

EX-135

REC-92

100-12304-547-Br

AIRTEL

OCT 50 8 10 AM '58

OCT 17 1958

Let to Dir, WFO

10-24

cc NY

CLASSIFICATION CONTROL

Classified by 2050 NED

Exempt from GDS, Category 2

Date of Declassification Indefinite

MAY 24 1977

BCK:lbw

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBV. CONTROL  
Released Per State  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP5RJS/HW  
ON... 2-3-87

97

1

776

1 - Mr. Haack  
1 - Mr. Rachner

SAC, Washington Field (100-19021)

October 24, 1958

REC-92 Director, FBI (100-12304) -547

✓  
PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

EX-135

Reurairtel 10-17-58 captioned "Paul Robeson, Jr., Security Matter - C." (your file 100-24387, New York file 100-95550).

Information contained in referenced airtel pertains to captioned subject, the father of Paul Robeson, Jr. Make necessary changes. NO 9-

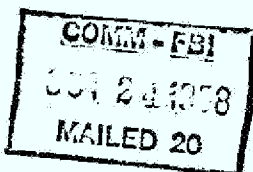
2 - New York (100-25957)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject is key figure of New York Office. He is currently traveling in Europe and Asia. Re airtel contains information from State Department dispatches concerning subject's travel abroad. WFO apparently mistook this information as pertaining to subject's son, Paul Robeson, Jr., and reported it accordingly. WFO and NY being requested to make appropriate changes.

BCR:blm  
(5) *libra*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJG/HW



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

57 OCT 30 1958 *530*

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*libra*



OFFICE MEMORANDUM \*\*\* UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-81)

DATE: 10/31/58

FROM :

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CONFIDENTIAL

UTMOST CARE MUST BE UTILIZED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING  
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF A  
HIGHLY PLACED INFORMANT.

SA [REDACTED] orally furnished to  
the information on the following page. This  
oral information was reduced to writing on [REDACTED]

(2) - Bureau (REGISTERED)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL ATTACHED

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJS/HW  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-91

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF [REDACTED]  
DATE 1-16-91

100-12304-  
NOT RECORDED  
128 NOV 12 1958

60 NOV 12 1958

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3-81-14

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.



Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

FBI Headquarters file 100-12304 - Not Recorded 10-31-58

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
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11-10-58

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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date 10-29-58)

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: November 14, 1958

FROM : Legat, London (100-1666)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SUBJECT: ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was.  
SM - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY 61-581g/HW  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-91

Re New York letter to the Bureau, 10/16/58, and Washington  
Field report 7/29/58. (2)

[REDACTED]

P.

AGENCY 211271  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 12-2-58  
HOW FORW. 95  
BY [signature]

- 6 - Bureau (Encls. 6)
- 1 - London File 100-1666 (E. ROBESON)
- 1 - London File 100-1182 (P. ROBESON)
- CWB:mas
- (8)

100-12304-548

2 NOV 21 1958

ENCLOSURE

Classified by 250 112  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

BOUCH HWIF

REC-72

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EX-136

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

FBI Headquarters file 100-12304-548 (Enclosure)

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XXXXXX  
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of State, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

FBI Headquarters File 100-12304-549

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SAC, New York (100-56680)

November 21, 1958

Director, FBI (100-12304)

ESLANDA ROBESON  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurairtel 11-17-58 captioned "Paul Leroy Robeson, Internal Security - C," (Bufile 100-12304, your file 100-25857).

Subject's activities should be closely followed. Pertinent information concerning her activities while in United States as well as pertinent information concerning her travel plans and proposed activities abroad should be furnished to the Bureau promptly in a form suitable for dissemination.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

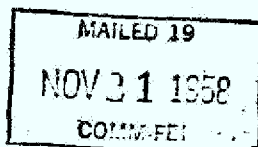
Subject in Security Index. She is wife of Paul Robeson, a key figure of New York Office. Both subject and her husband have been traveling in Europe and Asia, including Russia, for the last several weeks. State and Central Intelligence Agency have been advised and Legal Attaches have been following the matter closely. Re airtel advised that subject had returned to New York City for three-week period and would give speeches concerning the travels of herself and her husband. She intends to return to her husband in London in late November. In line with previous instructions, New York being advised to follow the matter closely.

BCR:blm  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5B19/HW

REC- 83

100-12304-550



12 NOV 24 1958

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
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W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

50 NOV 25 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>NEW YORK</b>	Office of Origin <b>NEW YORK</b>	Date <b>11/19/58</b>	Investigative Period <b>10/16,17;11/6,7,10/58</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was.</b>		Report made by <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Typed By: <b>ar</b>
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>	

ESLANDA ROBESON visited Trinidad B.W.I., on 4/17/58, and returned to her former residence, 16 Jumel Terrace, NYC, on 5/1/58. ROBESON and her husband, PAUL ROBESON, have been in Europe since 7/10/58. On 9/21/58, PAUL ROBESON stated he would make his future home London, England. On 3/31/58, ESLANDA ROBESON was active as a correspondent for "New World Review" at the UN. In contact with BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JAMES JACKSON, and WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, National and New York State CP leaders. Active as co-chairman of the Committee of Women of the NCASF. Was active on behalf of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, PRP candidate for NYC Council in 1957. Contributed articles to "The Worker" on 4/27;5/18;6/1/58. In contact with Soviet and Satellite establishments in 1957-1958. PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand" dedicated to ESLANDA ROBESON.

CLASS. & EXT. BY **SP-5 RL: 1-16-81**  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW **1-16-91**

Approved <b>[Signature]</b>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made:		<b>100-12304-55</b>	<b>REC-71</b>
①- Bureau (100-12304) (RM) 3- New York (100-56680)		<b>NOV 24 1958</b>	<b>135</b>
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE <b>52 DEC 2 1958</b>		SUBV CONTROL	
52 DEC 2 1958		AGENCY <b>State, CIA</b> REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. <b>12-1-58</b> HOW FORW. <b>By [Signature]</b>	

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

I. BACKGROUND

A. Foreign Travel

██████████ advised on March 15, 1958, that ESLANDA ROBESON stated she was planning to travel to the West Indies on April 15, 1958, and would be there for a week or two. She stated she would make the trip with a United Nations (UN) group.

On March 30, 1958, ██████████ advised that on that date, ROBESON stated she had secured her ticket and would leave New York on April 16, 1958, and planned to return on May 9, 1958.

██████████ advised on ██████████ that on approximately April 15, 1958, the UN was sponsoring reduced rate fares for travel to Trinidad, British West Indies, in connection with the celebration of the freedom of the British West Indies. Informant expressed the belief that ROBESON was travelling to Trinidad in her capacity as a correspondent for the "New World Review", a publication for which she was editorial consultant on Negro and colonial questions, and also correspondent to the UN.

██████████ advised on April 26, 1958, that ROBESON was then on a trip to the West Indies and was expected to return to New York on or about April 30, 1958.

On May 1, 1958, ██████████ advised that ESLANDA ROBESON returned to her residence, 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, on that date.

██████████ again advised on May 3, 1958, that ESLANDA ROBESON had visited Jamaica, Trinidad, and the city of Port-Au-Prince. Informant stated ROBESON indicated she enjoyed the trip very much and during the trip had appeared on radio several times.

Referred to  
the Dept of the  
State for  
their  
review and  
return to the  
FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

Referred  
to the  
Dept of  
the Navy  
for their  
review and  
return to  
the  
FBI

(X) for release

ESLANDA ROBESON and her husband, PAUL ROBESON,  
have been in Europe since July 10, 1958.

ROBESON and his wife were able to obtain passports  
in view of a decision by the United States Supreme Court,  
on June 16, 1958, in the case involving ROCKWELL KENT, 11.5  
WALTER BRIEHL, and WELDON BRUCE DAYTON in which it was held  
that under existing statutes governing travel, the Secretary  
of the State lacks the authority to withhold a passport because  
of an applicant's present or past membership in or association  
with the Communist Party (CP).

The "New York Times", Late City Edition, dated  
September 22, 1958, page 26, contains an article captioned:  
"Robeson Intends to Live in London - But singer says he is  
not deserting U.S. - Foresees concerts in New York."

This article is set forth as follows:

"Blackpool, England, Sept. 21 (Reuters) - Paul  
Robeson said here tonight that he would make his future  
home in London.

'I find the British people very warm and I have  
lived here before', the American singer declared. 'London  
will be my center, as Hollywood is the center for some  
British film stars.'

'I don't want any overtones of suggestion that I  
am deserting the country of my birth', Mr. Robeson added.  
'If I have a concert in New York, I will go there and  
return to London.'

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~





~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

"The Worker" issue of September 21, 1958, page 5, identifies BENJAMIN J. DAVIS as the New York State Chairman of the CP.

[REDACTED] (C) [REDACTED] (C)

The "Daily Worker" issue of May 6, 1957, page 3, column 1, reported that JAMES E. JACKSON was elected to the CP's National Executive Committee at a meeting of its National Committee held on April 28, 1957.

[REDACTED] on [REDACTED] commented that recently [REDACTED] WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, [REDACTED] had stated that his wife, LOUISE, and ESLANDA ROBESON before their marriage had been roommates.

[REDACTED] on [REDACTED], advised according to a New York State CP official, the New York State Committee, and the National Executive Committee of the CP, approved WILLIAM L. PATTERSON as a functionary for "The Worker".

B. National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (NCASF)

The NCASF has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that at a meeting of the NCASF held in New York City on [REDACTED] ESLANDA ROBESON spoke about the experiences of her son, PAULIE, who was enrolled in a Russian school for several years.

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] was present at meetings of the [REDACTED] CP on [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a luncheon of the Women's Division of the NCASF was held in New York City on [redacted] ESLANDA ROBESON spoke about her work in the UN, and praised the organization, but condemned the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Western nations. She had unlimited praise for the politics and the scientific achievements of the United Soviet Socialist Republics, but only criticism for everything the United States is doing. Mrs. ROBESON said for instance, "The Soviet Union has never been so modest and so quiet as right now when she surprised the world with the greatest scientific achievement, the satellites. It was a blow to the US and a complete victory presented to the world in all modesty. The US instead who always claimed to be on top and always struggling to gain world leadership lost her prestige. As for the American people, I must say that they are the most ignorant, stupid and stinking arrogant people in the world."

This sentence she repeated several times.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that <sup>at</sup> an NCASF meeting, held in New York City on [redacted] ESLANDA ROBESON acted as co-chairman of the meeting.

On [redacted] made available a mimeographed invitation to a showing of two color films on the evening of May 21, 1958, which meeting was sponsored by the Committee of Women's Division of the NCASF. Mrs. ESLANDA G. ROBESON as Co-Chairman of the Committee of Women was one of those who would preside.

#### C. People's Rights Party (PRP)

The PRP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] on October 17, 1957, furnished information in which it was stated that a meeting in honor of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYN, PRP candidate of the New York City Council, would be held October 31, 1957, at 91 Second Avenue, New York City.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON was listed as a sponsor and the mistress of ceremonies at this meeting was listed as ESLANDA ROBESON.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at a meeting of the [redacted] CP, held in New York City on [redacted] it was announced that there would be a reception for ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN on October 27 at Rappaport's Restaurant on the lower East Side, New York City. ESLANDA ROBESON would be the mistress of ceremonies.

"The "Daily Worker" issue of October 22, 1957, page 4, column 2, contained the following statement:

"Mrs. Eslanda Robeson, anthropologist and lecturer, will be Mistress of Ceremonies at a gala reception to be held 10/31 at Rapaport's Banquet Room 91 Second Ave., for Eliz. Gurley Flynn, Communist leader and People's Rights Party candidate for the City Council."

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at the ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN reception of October 31, 1957, ESLANDA ROBESON, who worked with the UN, spoke and said that she had always been radical in the fight for socialism and that the goal of the labor movement was to "get rid of Capitalism."

[redacted] on July 7, 1958, advised that ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN was elected National Field Organizer of the CP, United States of America, at the CP National Committee meeting held June 28, 1958.

#### D. Writings

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast Communist newspaper which suspended publication on January 13, 1958.

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist weekly newspaper.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

"The Worker" issue of April 27, 1958, page 6, column 3, contains an article captioned, "How World Greeted Paul Robeson", by Eslanda Robeson. In this article, ESLANDA ROBESON stated in part:

"Throughout seven long years of persecution Paul Robeson has been sustained by the knowledge that many people in many places, near and far, have continued to respect him and remain steadfastly loyal to him as an artist and as a man.

'These people, whose number runs into hundreds of millions, have assured Paul from time to time that they consider him a great artist and a courageous human being. They have been indignant because the U. S. Department of State continues to deny him his right to travel, preventing them from hearing him sing and act. They have, upon occasion, arranged trans-Atlantic telephone concerts in order to hear his 'live' voice.

'This year, friends, neighbors, colleagues and admirers all over the world decided to honor Paul Robeson by celebrating his 60th birthday (April 9th). Formal and informal Paul Robeson Birthday Committees were organized in Australia, Bulgaria, Ceylon, China, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the USSR and the USA.

'On or about April 9th these Committees held concerts, meetings, radio and television programs in which distinguished academicians, scientists, theatre and film personalities took part. Together with many groups and individuals, they sent Paul Robeson cables, telegrams, letters, cards and presents for his birthday. These continue to pour in, more than a week after the birthday.

'Telephone calls and greetings came to our home from Accra, Armavir, Azerbaijan, Berlin, Bombay, Brooklyn, Bucharest, Budapest, Calcutta, Detroit, Kalinin, Kazan, Kiev, Kingston, Leningrad, London, Los Angeles, Mexico City,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

Moscow, New Delhi, New Haven, New York, Odesa, Peking, Paris, Port-au-Prince, Prague, Reykjavik (Iceland), Rostov, San Diego, Sofia, South Norwalk, Stalingrad, Stockholm, Sydney, Tashkent, Tiflis, Tokyo, Ulan Bator, (Mongolia), Vienna, Vilnius, Warsaw, Washington, D. C. and many other places.

'An interesting variety of special groups in many countries sent collective greetings: actors, architects, an aviation institute, composers, critics, dancers, editors, faculties of universities, film directors, a folklore institute, labor unions, musicians, Peace Committees, Pioneers, radio and television stations, school children, scientists, singers, students, teachers' institutes, writers, youth groups.

'Ambassadors, statemen, public officials, and hundreds of people -- distinguished and obscure -- sent him personal messages of admiration, friendship, encouragement and love. They assured him that they wait eagerly for him to come to sing and act for them in their countries, that they wait to welcome and embrace him.

'Paul is deeply moved by this extraordinary manifestation of friendship, concern and support. It is our plan to preserve these messages in a special 60th Birthday Album. He warmly thanks all those who have so thoughtfully and generously made this 60th birthday such a memorable occasion. His family is deeply grateful, etc. In order that you know at once how happy you have made us -- this is our personal Thank You to each and every one of you."

"The Worker" issue of May 18, 1958, page 1, column 1, contains an airticle captioned, "The West Indies - A New Nation", by ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON. In this article ESLANDA ROBESON stated in part:-

"There is a new nation here in the Western Hemisphere, and 3,5000,000 people, most of them non-white, have happily joined the world fellowship of self-governing peoples."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

"The new nation consists of ten Territories of the British West Indies: Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada and Montserrat."

"The Worker" issue of June 1, 1958, page 11, column 1, contained an article captioned, "The West Indies - Union of New Nations" by ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON. In this article ESLANDA ROBESON stated she attended the celebration of the Federation in Port-of-Spain. She stated while she was there she had the good fortune to attend the Third Biennial Conference of Trade Unions of the area of the British West Indies. She set forth some of the comments of the speakers at this conference.

III. CONTACTS WITH SOVIET AND SATELLITE ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE WEST

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that LEONID M. ZAMYATIN of the Soviet UN Delegation was in contact with Mrs. ESLANDA ROBESON on that date. b7D

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that ESLANDA ROBESON was present at a reception held at the Rumanian Mission to the UN on [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that the Albanian Delegation to the UN had a reception on [REDACTED] at which ESLANDA ROBESON was present. b1

(c)

(c)

Re S.A.  
U.S.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

90



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, New York City, reflect that [REDACTED] was a Soviet National who entered the United States on [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c) b1

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED], that on [REDACTED] b7D  
ESLANDA ROBESON had been in contact with  
Prince DIKA AKWAY NYABONAMBELA of the French Camerons in  
West Africa.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 96

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that ESLANDA and PAUL ROBESON were present at a cocktail party held by the Libyan Delegation to the UN during the week of December 9, 1957.

The "New York Mirror" issue of March 22, 1958, in its editorial on that date indicated that Prime Minister NEHRU was lending support in India to an unusual campaign that was "wiping it up for American singer PAUL ROBESON and a celebration of ROBESON's 60th birthday April 9th." NEHRU also described ROBESON as a sufferer "in the case of human dignity."

[redacted] on March 22, 1958, advised that BEN DAVIS in contact with ESLANDA ROBESON on that date commented on NEHRU's statement above, and said that it was a wonderful thing and described it as "a massive breakthrough."

[redacted] on [redacted] furnished a copy of PAUL ROBESON's book "Here I Stand." This book is dedicated to PAUL ROBESON's wife, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON.

[redacted] on March 30, 1958, advised that ESLANDA ROBESON had stated that a resolution had been passed by Actors Equity on March 21, 1958, which endorsed a resolution of the British Actors Equity that PAUL ROBESON be granted a tentative passport. ROBESON expressed surprise at the Equity action because subsequent to the assumption of its leadership by actor RALPH BELLAMY, a reactionary group had taken over the organization.

ESLANDA continued that OSSIE DAVIS had introduced the resolution and despite the opposition of Equity President BELLAMY, the resolution was carried by approximately 110 votes to 75. She commented that OSSIE DAVIS refers to his action relative to this resolution as his birthday contribution to PAUL ROBESON.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

[REDACTED] on April 29, 1953, furnished information which reflected that O. DAVIS, 5 Cooley Place, Mt. Vernon, New York in April, 1953, was a subscriber to the "Daily Worker" and "The Worker".

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

78



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

[REDACTED] advised on May 1, 1958, that ESIANDA ROBESON inquired of her son, PAUL ROBESON, JR., as to whether May Day was a holiday in the United States, as the people in the West Indies had asked her this question. ROBESON, JR., replied that it is not a holiday in the United States, but that the day it is a national holiday "they" will have nothing to worry about.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 99

NY 100-56680

APPENDIX

"New World Review"

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning "New World Review":

- "1. Cited as an organization specializing in pro-Soviet propaganda. It was formerly known as Soviet Russia Today.

(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 90.)"

- C -

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 11/19/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-56680)

SUBJECT: ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was.  
SM-C~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Enclosed herewith are four copies of the report of SA JACK D. WOOD, dated and captioned as above. Also enclosed are four copies of a letterhead memorandum setting forth the reliability of informants.

REFERENCE

Report of SA [REDACTED] at WFO, dated 7/29/58, and NY letter to Bureau, dated 10/16/58. b7C

ADMINISTRATIVE

ROBESON's husband, PAUL LEROY ROBESON, is a key figure of the NYO.

INFORMANTSIdentity  
of SourceDate of Activity  
or Description  
of InformationFile Number  
Where  
Located

T-1 [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED]

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RLS/lw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-91

1-16-81

100-56680-531

b1  
b7D

REC-77

100-12304-552

NOV 24 1958

(By request)

2-Bureau (100-12304) (Encls 8) (RM)  
3-New York (100-56680)

JDW:ar  
(5)

EX-135

ENCLOSURE

SUB CONTROL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

52 DEC 2 1958

CLASS. & EXT. BY  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW

107



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity or Description of Information</u>	<u>File Number Where Located</u>
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T-3  
ONI  
Bulet to NY,  
6/3/58; captioned;  
"ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON;  
IS-C"

100-56680-576

T-4  
[REDACTED] (C)  
(By request)

100-56680-530

T-5  
[REDACTED] (C)

T-6  
[REDACTED] (C)

T-7  
[REDACTED] (C)

100-56680-542

T-8  
[REDACTED] (C)

T-9  
[REDACTED] (C)

T-10  
[REDACTED] (C)

T-11  
[REDACTED] (C)

100-7538-1A2119

100-80641-B371

b1  
b7C  
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity or Description of Information</u>	<u>File Number Where Located</u>
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100-56680-497

100-56680-470

100-56680-491

100-56680-506

100-56680-508

100-56680-523

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. ☐ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☐ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ This report is classified ~~confidential~~ because (state reason) it contains information from confidential informants such as [redacted] and [redacted] the disclosure of which would seriously hamper the investigation of the CP, USA, and would be prejudicial to the defense interests of the US. b7D
8. ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) her residence as been taken up in London, England.
9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) subject's association with Communist front organizations as well as her husband and the fact that her husband recently visited NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

104





United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

NY 100-56680

New York, New York  
November 19, 1958

Re: Eslanda Cordozo Hobson,  
with aliases  
Security Matter - C

All informants mentioned in the report of  
Special Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned as above,  
at New York, have furnished reliable information in the  
past. b7c

This is loaned to you by the Federal Bureau of  
Investigation, and neither it nor its contents are to be  
distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RLS/dw

06 0146 0147  
Lab, State, CIA  
12-1-58  
HOW FOR  
BY [signature]

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-552

105

FBI

Date: 11/17/58

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED (Type in plain text or code)~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Via \_\_\_\_\_

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN

OTHERWISE

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON

IS - C

CINAL

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJA/dp  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-91

UTMOST CARE MUST BE USED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING  
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF  
THE INFORMANT.

[REDACTED] a speech would be presented by ESLANDA ROBESON  
(Mrs. PAUL ROBESON), who is identified as the Co-Chairman of  
the Committee of Women of the NCASF and a member of the Board  
of Directors of the NCASF, on Sunday, 11/23/58, at 6 P.M. at the  
"Club House" (True Sisters Club House), 150 West 85th Street,  
NYC.

[REDACTED] that Mrs. PAUL ROBESON is in the United States for only "three  
short weeks" and she will depart "for far away places" on  
11/28/58. [REDACTED]

4 - BUREAU (100-12304) (Encl. 8) (RM)  
1 - [REDACTED] (ESLANDA ROBESON)

1 - NY 100-7518 (NCASF) (411)  
1 - NY 100-56680 (ESLANDA ROBESON) (415)  
1 - NY 100-25857 (Att. 1) (415)

DR:mfd (41) - 124  
(9)

AGENCY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
HOW FORW.  
BY  
11-19-58  
25 NOV 18 1958

ENCLOSURE

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

63 DEC 1 1958

SUBV. CONTROL

CENTRAL RESEARCH  
CONFIDENTIAL

X  
FBI

CONFIDENTIAL X

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code.)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

NY 100-25857

[REDACTED] to hear Mrs. ROBESON discuss the intimate experiences of the travels of herself and her husband in the Soviet Union. b7c/b7D

[REDACTED] (C) noted that ESLANDA ROBESON had been a feature speaker at the NCASF "Rally for Peace and Friendship" held on 11/14/58, at Carnegie Hall, NYC, where she assured those present that PAUL ROBESON still considered the United States his homeland even though he should take up temporary residence in England "or somewhere else." b1

[REDACTED] that ESLANDA ROBESON, after departing from the United States on 11/28/58, would join her husband, PAUL ROBESON, in England and both would then travel to Communist China. b7D

[REDACTED] (C)  
Enclosed for the Bureau are 8 copies of a letter-head memorandum. This memorandum has been classified Confidential inasmuch as information appearing therein emanates from a confidential informant of continuing value. Unauthorized disclosure of this information could conceivably result in the identification of this source and compromise her future effectiveness. b1 b7C b7D

FOSTER

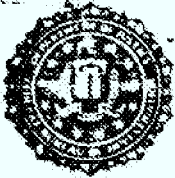
CONFIDENTIAL X

- 2 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

107





United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
New York, New York  
November 17, 1958

100-12304

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5R1g/dw

Re: Paul Leroy Robeson  
Internal Security - C

[REDACTED] that a speech will be given by Eslanda Robeson (Mrs. Paul Robeson), who is identified [REDACTED] as Co-Chairman of the Committee of Women, NCASF, and member of the Board of Directors, NCASF, on Sunday, November 23, 1958, at 6 P.M. at the "Club House" (True Sisters Club House), 150 West 85th Street, New York, New York.

The NCASF has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[REDACTED] that Mrs. Paul Robeson is in the United States for only "three short weeks" and she will depart "for far away places" on November 28, 1958.

[REDACTED] to hear Mrs. Robeson discuss the intimate experiences regarding the travels of herself and her husband in the Soviet Union.

[REDACTED] Eslanda Robeson had been a feature speaker at the NCASF Rally for Peace and Friendship, held on the evening of November 14, 1958, at Carnegie Hall, New York City, where she assured those present that Paul Robeson still considered the United States his homeland even though he should take up temporary residence in England "or somewhere else."

146 0141 04  
AGENCY that, C. I. B. Lab, Legat. London  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 11-14-58  
HOW FORW. by [REDACTED]  
BY [REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED BY 2150 JLR

MAY 24 1977

100-12304-553  
ENCLOSURE

EST AUG 29 1973

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE

b7C  
b7D

108

~~SECRET~~  
[REDACTED] Eslanda Robeson, after departing from the United States on November 28, 1958, would join her husband, Paul Robeson, in England, and thereafter with him would travel to Communist China. b7c/b7D

This memorandum is loaned to you by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET4

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of State, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
American Embassy  
Paris 8, France

Date: November 28, 1958  
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)  
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)  
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Re Paris letter 8/20/58.

Two copies of this communication are provided for  
transmittal to New York (100-25857 and 100-56680).

RUC.

4 - Bureau  
1 - Paris  
ROL:CM  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5 RJG/dw

REC-50

100-12304-555

EX-133

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BOUCH MAIL

SUBV CONTROL

AGENCY 2116 NY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 12-10-58  
HOW FORW. BY  
F256

DEC 1

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 12/3/58

b7D FROM : LEGAT, BONN (105-720)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Remylet 9/16/58.

The following sources of the Bonn Office have been alerted regarding our interest in ROBESON's travel and activities in Europe:

G-2, Headquarters, U.S. Army, Europe;  
Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Air Forces;  
Consular Unit, U.S. Embassy, Bonn, Germany;

[REDACTED] b7D

No information of pertinence to captioned matter has been received to date. Appropriate entries have been made in the files of the above-listed agencies to insure that this office will be notified in the event any information of a security nature concerning ROBESON comes to their attention.

Accordingly, this matter is being considered RUC, subject to being reopened upon the receipt of such information.

RUC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5 R/LH/W

3 - Bureau  
1 - Bonn  
(4) WFD:tlo

2d

201-X3

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62 DEC 15 1958

113

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of State, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBI Headquarters File 100-12304 - Not Recorded, dated 12-6-58.

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Mr. Haack  
Mr. Rachner

SAC, New York (100-98941)

~~SECRET~~

December 4, 1958

Director, FBI (100-414116)

PERSONAL ATTENTION

**SECURITY MATTER - C**

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF 12-8-77

1-16-81

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJS/HW  
REASON-FRM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REV. 1-16-81

(S)  
The above is furnished for your information.  
If a review of your office files indicates inquiry or  
investigation is warranted based upon this information,  
you should furnish the Bureau the basis for the inquiry  
and request Bureau authority to take such action. (u)

(S)  
1- 100-12304 (Paul-Eslanda Robeson)  
NOTE ON YELLOW:

Classified by 2691/8  
Exempt from GDS, Category  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Subject previously considered for Security Index but  
not included therein. She was last known to be employed by  
the "National Guardian" in 1955. However, no evidence of CP  
membership has been developed. (u)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BCR:bkm  
(6)

52 DEC 10 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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DUPLICATE YELLOW  
~~SECRET~~

100-12304-  
NOT RECORDED  
168 DEC 8 1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-414116

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE : 12/9/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Remyairtel, 11/17/58.

[REDACTED] a speech by ESLANDA ROBESON on the evening of  
11/23/58, sponsored by the Women's Division of the National  
Council of American Soviet Friendship [REDACTED]

as follows:

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJS/HW  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-91

- 3- Bureau (100-12304) (RM)  
(1- 100- (ESLANDA ROBESON))  
1- NY 134-116 (Inv) (41)  
1- NY 100-56680 (ESLANDA ROBESON) (415)  
1- NY 100-7518 (NCASF) (411)  
1- NY 100-121080 [REDACTED] (423)  
1- NY 100-46163 [REDACTED] (411)  
1- NY 100-135720 [REDACTED] (411)  
1- NY 100-20030 [REDACTED] (425)  
1- NY 100-134858 [REDACTED] (425)  
1- NY 100-128118 [REDACTED] (425)  
1- NY 100-134428 [REDACTED] (421)  
1- NY 100-114410 [REDACTED] (421)  
1- NY 100-133510 [REDACTED] (41)  
1- NY 100-82136 [REDACTED] (425)  
1- NY 100-82160 [REDACTED] (422)  
1- NY 100-44201 [REDACTED] (421)  
1- NY 100-103749 [REDACTED] (425)

(COPIES CONT'D)

1- NY 100-25857 (415)

DR: ras  
(25)

REC-17

EX-132

100-12304-558

25 DEC 12 1958

63 DEC 18 1958

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

(COPIES CONT'D)

1- NY 100-110444 [REDACTED] 425)  
1- NY 100-116924 [REDACTED] 421)  
1- NY 100- [REDACTED] (412)  
1- NY 100-92483 [REDACTED] 425)  
1- NY 100-70087 [REDACTED] 425)

←  
b7C  
←

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Identity of Source [REDACTED] (C) who has furnished  
reliable info in past (conceal)

b1

Description of info: Women's Division, NCASF speech  
by Eslanda Robeson, 11/23/58

←

Date Received: [REDACTED]

b1

Received by: SA [REDACTED]

b7C

Original location: [REDACTED] (C)

b7D

Utmost care must be used in handling and reporting  
the following information in order to protect the identity  
of the informant.

←

A copy of informant's written report follows:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

118

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

[REDACTED]

b7D

Sunday, 23 November 1958 - Womens Division of NCASF  
at True Sisters Club House.

Topic: Eslanda Robeson and her trip to the USSR.

Attendance: 74

Admission: \$ 1.00 plus collection

Speaker: Eslanda Robeson

Chairman: Virginia Epstein

Present: Eslanda Robeson, Virginia Epstein, Mrs. & Mr. R. Morford, Mr. & Mrs. Yakontoff, Clara Leet, Ann Weiss, Goldie Levitt, Regina Boelicki, Rochelle Meadow, Mildred Hirsch, Bluma Feinstein, Rose Wallach, Sara Frank, Sonia Best, Rose Brohman, Mary (Mollie) Rosen, Tamara Tchach, 2 male Negroes; 2 female Negroes, names unknown.

Mrs. Robeson was one hour late. Virginia Epstein had to phone her several times. When she arrived, she said that she was too tired to come in time and had to rest up, else she would not be able to talk now. During her one hour speech, she played nervously with a rubber band around her hand.

About the trip to England, she only said that she and Paul received a very warm welcome. In USSR, the reception was terrific. Besides heavy police guard, the army had to be mobilized to protect her and Paul. When he sang at the Sports Palace, there were 60,000 persons inside and 60,000 more standing outside. She said that she met and spoke to Khrushshev and his wife and also to the wife of the Soviet Minister of Culture. She called Khrushshev charming and his wife very plain, the house wife type. Usually, she said it is difficult to meet the wives of the Soviet leaders.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

119



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

when she interviewed the wife of the Minister of Culture, she asked her about what should she write in the American papers and the woman suggested that she write about the Soviet School system. She visited several schools with dormitories. Two students share a bath, but each one has a room of his own. Every Soviet citizen no matter what age is only interested in one thing: production. They are building one-room apartments and later will build 2-room apartments. Mrs. Robeson said that the USSR has so-called "Parents' Committees", a group of people, mostly women, who supervise the schools, classes, kitchen, dining-room and every department. They investigate the complaints turned in by pupils or their parents, or by teachers and even visit parents of problem children. Mrs. Robeson said, "These people of the Parents Committee, members of the Communist Party are not allowed to have a job or any occupation."

Mrs. Robeson also said, "There are rumors that Paul will take up residence abroad. Paul's home will always be where his family is, in the US., even if he takes up temporary residence somewhere else. Paul is making 2 movie pictures in the Soviet Union, one will be his own life story, the other one a travel picture. Paul will return to the Soviet Union in December."

Mrs. Robeson spoke till 8 PM. Then the collection started. Later on, there was to be a discussion, but a number of people started to leave. When asked by Ann Weiss to stay till the end, they said that they had come before 6 o'clock without having supper.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: December 10, 1958

FROM : Legat, London (100-1182, 100-1666)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was. CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJD/HW  
SM - C

REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 1-16-87

Remytel 11/14/58 re ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON and New York  
Airtel to the Bureau, 11/17/58, re PAUL LEROY ROBESON. (u)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

P.

ENCLOSURE

Classified by 2650/Reg  
Exempt from GDS Category  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

100-12304-559

2 DEC 16 1958

- 6 - Bureau (Encls. 6)
- 1 - London File 100-1182 (P. ROBESON)
- 1 - London File 100-1666 (E. ROBESON)

CWB:mas  
(8)AGENCY 2  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.

SUBV. CONTROL

67 DEC 23 1958

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

121

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. PARSONS

DATE: December 3, 1958

FROM : C. F. DOWNING

SUBJECT: PAUL LE ROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Tolson	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Nease	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Trotter	✓
W.C. Sullivan	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

In the September, 1958, issue of Russian language newspaper "ZA VOZVRASHCHENIE NA RODINU" (Return to the Homeland) published in East Berlin and which has the objective of enticing people of Slavic birth to return to their native country, an article concerning PAUL ROBESON appeared. Translation of this article is set forth below:

ON SEPTEMBER 15, PAUL ROBESON AND HIS WIFE, ESLANDA, LEFT FOR LONDON, AFTER A MONTH'S VISIT IN THE SOVIET UNION.

"MANY THANKS TO ALL THE SOVIET PEOPLE," HE SAID: "NOW, AFTER A MONTH'S SOJOURN IN THE UNION, EVERYONE OF YOU SEEMS TO ME A CLOSE FRIEND, BROTHER, OR SISTER. I THANK YOU ALL, FRIENDS !

"YESTERDAY, ON THE EVE OF MY DEPARTURE FROM MOSCOW, I VISITED THE MAUSOLEUM, VISITED THE KREMLIN, AND SAW THE GRAVE OF JOHN REED, AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST AND FIGHTER, WHO SACRIFICED HIS LIFE IN ORDER THAT ALL THE SIMPLE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WOULD LIVE HAPPILY. AND HERE, IN THE RED SQUARE, I AGAIN FELT MYSELF NOT SIMPLY A FRIEND OF THE LAND OF THE SOVIETS; I FELT MYSELF AS PART OF YOUR PEOPLE. GOOD-BY, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN SOON, FRIENDS!"

JOHN REED, American writer ("Ten Days That Shook the World") and a leading Bolshevik, died of typhus in Moscow in 1920 and is buried in a place of honor within the Kremlin. (100-208097)

## ACTION:

For information.

100-12304

1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Nease

ML:mal mal  
(6)

60 DEC 22 1958

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

✓ DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5KJG/HW

REC-51

100-12304-569  
DEC 16 1958

100-12304  
5-6-8  
123



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 12/29/58 1-17-81

FROM : *cwb* Legat, London (100-1666)CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP-5 R/LHJ*  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 *3*  
DATE OF REVIEW *1-17-91*SUBJECT: ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was.  
SM - C

CONFIDENTIAL

Remylets 11/14 and 12/10/58. (u)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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6 - Bureau, Encls. 6  
2 - London: 1 - 100-1666  
1 - 100-1182 (PAUL LEROY ROBESON)

EX - 132

REC-31

100-12304-561

12 JAN 6 1959

CWB:1c  
(8)

CONFIDENTIAL

AGENCY  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
HOW FORW.  
BYClassified by *2480*  
Exempt from GDS, Category *1*  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
*5-24-77*

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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1 - Liaison Section  
1 - Mr. B. C. Rachner  
1 - Mr. Aull

100-363216

Date: December 29, 1958

VIA LIAISON

To: Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E Street, N. W.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: [REDACTED] with aliases  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RPH/42  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-21-94

© Robeson Eslanda

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
DEC 30 1958  
MAILED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
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Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
andy \_\_\_\_\_

1 - New York (See Note page 2)  
① - 100-12304 (Eslanda Cordoza Robeson)

WAA:mlj

(8)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MCT-5 100-12304-  
NOT RECORDED  
176 JAN 7 1959

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-363216-7

126



~~SECRET~~

Director  
Central Intelligence Agency

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED]

(S)

Our files reflect that background information concerning Islanda Robeson and her husband, Paul Robeson, was furnished you in a report of Special Agent Jack D. Wood dated November 19, 1958, at New York entitled "Islanda 'Cordozo' Robeson, with aliases, Security Matter-C," a copy of which was forwarded to you December 8, 1958. (u)

b1

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED]

(S)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~



## Office Memorandum • UNITED

ERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 1/2/59

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS-C

The New York "Herald Tribune" issue of 12/31/58, page 9, column 1, carried the following under the date line "London, December 30":

"Paul Robeson, American singer, and his wife arrived today in Moscow to start a month's stay in the Soviet Union, Moscow radio said".

- 2- Bureau (100-12304) (RM)
- 1- New York (100-56680) (ESLANDA ROBESON)
- 1- New York (100-25857) (415)

RG0:jrc  
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 1-17-91 BY SP-5 BJA/10

REC-31

5 JAN 6 1959

SUBV. CONTROL

AGENCY

REQ. REC'D

DATE FORW.

HOW FORW.

BY

60 JAN 8 1959

128

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 1/2/59

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-56680)

SUBJECT: *ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON*  
SM - CReBulet to NY, 12/23/58, requesting status of instant case. *Robeson*

Subject is presently traveling in Europe with her husband, PAUL. She departed the United Kingdom for the US, on 11/7/58, and remained in the US until on or about 11/28/58, when she returned to the United Kingdom.

Subject's return to the United Kingdom on the HMS QUEEN MARY arriving in England, on 12/3/58, was verified through officials of the Cunard Lines in NYC.

A closing report was submitted in November, 1958. The subject is currently maintained in the "Unavailable Section" of the Security Index.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-12-81 BY *SP-5 Rlg/dw*

- 2- Bureau (100-12304) (RM)  
1- New York (100-56680)

RGO:gms  
(3)

REC-21

100-12304-563

JAN 6 1959

SUBV CONTROL

AGENCY *116 Legat London*  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. *1-8-59*  
HOW FORW. *2150-7*  
BY *SP-1*

60 JAN 8 1959

129

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: December 31, 1958

FROM : Legat, London (100-1182, 100-1666)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C

CONFIDENTIAL

ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, was.  
SM - C

Remylet 12/10/58. (u)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJH/HW  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-17-91

[REDACTED]

P.

53 JAN 13 1959

Classified by (C) 2470 JLR  
Excluded from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

6 - Bureau, Encls. 6

2 - London 1 - 100-1182 (P. ROBESON)  
1 - 100-1666 (E. ROBESON)

JAC:1c  
(8)

BOUCH WAT

4 JAN 7 1959

ENCLOSURE  
CONFIDENTIAL

SUBV CONTROL

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: January 19, 1959

FROM : *amb* Legat, London (100-1182)SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Remylet 12/31/58.

DATE 1-17-81 BY SP-5 RJG/HW

The January 13, 1959, issue of the London Daily Worker carried an article indicating that PAUL ROBESON would open the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre season at Stratford-on-Avon, England, on April 7, 1959, by appearing in "Othello." Subject is presently traveling in the USSR and, if the Daily Worker article is correct, will return to the United Kingdom some time prior to April 7, 1959.

There are enclosed two thermofax copies of excerpts from the Summary of World Broadcasts, No. 999, dated January 16, 1959, containing an interview Radio Moscow had with ROBESON. This information is prepared by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and this particular summary covers the period January 11 through 13, 1959.

700 53 10 00 AM '59  
BONCH WVF

100-12304-565

AGENCY REC'D  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 1-23-59  
HOW FORW. [REDACTED]  
BY [REDACTED]

JAN 23 1959

SUB CONTROL



and precision, I want to say to you, Chairman, that your idea for John Kenyatta has not gone unheard in this city, or in the people of the U.S. I believe in justice and freedom for all people. I'm concerned about John Kenyatta, and that is the call which was made by the All-African Peoples Conference for his freedom. I would like to re-emphasize and reinforce right here to the representatives to the UN from the United States. This I know, and I want to assure you of this fact. I would like also to assure the people of the conference that the resolution which you passed, the resolution calling for the reconstitution of the committee (from) South Africa, these questions too, and these resolutions too, will be passed by the good people of the USSR. It was a wonderful conference. I have talked about it, and Kenia Robeson has talked about it, we are writing about it, we are telling the people about you, the representatives of 200,000,000 people who came together in unity, overcoming all difficulties of language, overcoming all the various influences of the different countries which have held you oppressed over these many, many years, overcoming the differences of tribalism and religious (word indistinct), that during this conference you came together and have declared your intention to be free, independent and united in a world of peace and friendship and brotherhood to all men.

Dr. Dubois (on his message to the Accra conference): The message was in two parts: first a rehearsal of what had been done by US Negroes towards pan-African unity, and then the second part had to do with the economic progress of the new Africa. I sensed that the Africans today rather had the idea that they were poised between two different systems, and that they could adopt an attitude of neutrality, as to whether they would lean toward socialism or towards capitalism. I wanted to remind them that that wasn't true, that the day of private capitalism was gradually waning, as could be seen in the whole recent history of the world, and that they must remember that their attitude toward capitalism was not a matter of choice; it was a matter of necessity. They had to choose socialism, and they would get on a great deal easier if they were aware of what the choice was and made the choice without trying to go through a preliminary trial of transient capitalism.

[Here Dr. Dubois was asked if he thought the colonial countries in Africa would achieve the same economic and political successes as had the countries of the East, when they obtained their independence.] Oh yes. The achievements in the USSR and in China were made under unusual difficulties, difficulties that have been increased by the enormity of large numbers of people. Now, today, when you have a continent like Africa which is full of all sorts of wealth, of materials that can be used in various new ways in which we are using materials, and especially with the great reservoir of labour, the (advancement) can be made much faster than it was in the past in countries like the USSR and China. Therefore, Africa has every opportunity to go forward and to go fast, if she goes the right way - if she starts immediately to hitch her advancement in the near future to the old communism of the African tribe, she has a chance to make her progress much faster than otherwise would be the fact.

Mr. Paul Robeson: Mrs. Robeson told me about her trip to Accra. She was in Africa some other times, and even reflecting (sic) the feeling among my own folk in America, that we are part of an emerging coloured world, formerly colonial world, which is determined to have their freedom and to work out their own destiny. As I have said many times on different occasions, for me the friendship of the Soviet people, the peoples in the socialist democracies, especially here in the USSR, has been decisive to my mind. I said this years ago; I felt this when I first came in 1934; I think the events around Dux and the events that have followed since have made it clear that the Soviet peoples stand, and the peoples in the socialist land, as firm friends of this mighty world in Africa and in Asia. I go further and say that, were it not for the strength and power of the Soviet people, perhaps the struggles for liberation would not be taking place - I include (among the struggles for liberation) the people of America who are concerned. So I am very much concerned.



Interview with Dubois and Robeson

Excerpts from statements by Dr. William Dubois, Mrs. Dubois and Dr. Paul Robeson during an interview broadcast in the service in English for Africa.

Dr. Dubois: We were greatly impressed in the US by Sputnik because, before that, there had been a great deal of propaganda against the claim that the USSR had a fine system of education. Everything that was spoken of the USSR was usually disputed by somebody saying that it was merely propaganda and was not true. And then, when suddenly Sputnik came, here you had plainly in the skies for everybody to see the result of the splendid system of education here, and of your advancement in science, so that that marked an era. Now when we are here and we have this almost unimaginable triumph of human calculation, it is very difficult for me to express myself and to say just what the effect has been. But I do know this: hereafter, in the US the people are going to believe what the USSR is doing in education and science and they are going to be more disposed to live in peace and harmony with this great nation.

Mrs. Shirley Dubois [notes: Mrs. Dubois, asked her impressions of the Lagos conference which she had attended as a member of the US delegation, greeted among others John Elliott, Mrs. Youle, and Tom Khaya]: This young man [Khaya], who has gone back to Kenya, who presided over the conference with such dignity and poise.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-17-87 BY SP-5 RJA/ld

244-565

100-1-1000

134